

France and West Germany sign new accord

PARIS (AP) — Chancellor Helmut Kohl and President Francois Mitterrand signed accords Friday to create a joint French-West Germany army brigade and to coordinate the defence and economic policies of the two former enemies. The new step in cooperation between France and Germany, who fought each other in three wars over 100 years, was the centrepiece of the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the French-West German Friendship Treaty of 1963. West German Defence Minister Manfred Woerner, interviewed on French television, said the joint brigade to be established under the defence accord was a step toward a merged army. "I see the possibility that one day there would be a common army," Woerner said. French Defence Minister Andre Giraud, interviewed at the same time, said he agreed, adding, "The first step is the hardest." Jean-Pierre Senguis, a 52-year-old French officer who speaks German, is to be the first commander of the joint brigade. The full text of the economic accord is to be made public next week.

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Turkey condemns Israel

ANKARA (R) — Turkey summoned Israel's charge d'affaires Friday to condemn his country's actions against Palestinians in the occupied territories, the Foreign Ministry said. Foreign Ministry Under-Secretary Nuzhet Kandemir told Yehuda Milo of Ankara's concern about Israel's measures against Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, a ministry statement said. The statement said Kandemir urged Israel "to put an end to the arbitrary activities which infringed the basic rights of the Palestinians and to shoulder its obligations under international conventions."

Anti-Israeli protests in Cape Town

CAPE TOWN (R) — Ten people appeared in court Friday after they demonstrated outside the Israeli embassy in Cape Town against Israel's handling of Palestinian protests in the occupied territories. The 10, said to be members of an Islamic organisation, were not charged and were released on bail pending a court hearing on Feb. 17.

Genscher urges Reagan to seek deeper cuts in weapons

WASHINGTON (R) — West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher has urged President Ronald Reagan to press for deeper cuts in East-West nuclear arsenals and a global ban on chemical weapons. "This was a very good and very successful visit," Genscher told reporters after meeting Reagan Thursday. Genscher also urged the Senate to act swiftly to ratify the recently signed intermediate nuclear forces (INF) treaty eliminating intermediate-range nuclear missiles from the U.S. and Soviet stockpiles.

British parliament bans late abortions

LONDON (AP) — The British parliament by narrow margin gave preliminary approval Friday to a proposed law banning abortions after 18 weeks of pregnancy. The measure reducing the abortion time limit from 28 weeks to 18 weeks was approved by a 296-251 vote on "second reading," a crucial parliamentary stage at which bills are fully debated and put to a vote in the House of Commons.

U.S. court nullifies special prosecutor law

WASHINGTON (R) — A U.S. court of appeals struck down Friday the Watergate-inspired special prosecutor law authorising independent investigations into alleged wrongdoing by top government officials. While the historic ruling will presumably affect such current cases as the perjury conviction of former White House aide Michael Deaver, it will apparently not stop investigation of the Iran-contra scandal or the financial affairs of Attorney General Edwin Meese because the prosecutors in those cases have separate federal authority. The court, in a 2-1 decision, declared unconstitutional a key part of the ten-year-old ethics in government law passed by Congress after the Watergate scandal that drove Richard Nixon from presidency in August 1974.

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Israel's show of force, beatings fail to blunt Arab resistance

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinians kept up anti-occupation protests and demonstrations Friday despite a new policy adopted by the Israeli army of using excessive force to cause grievous injuries to Arab protesters.

At the Haram Al Sharif complex in Jerusalem, Muslims chanted anti-Israeli slogans and brandished Palestinian flags outside the Al Aqsa Mosque but there was no repetition of last Friday's violence which followed a storming of Islam's third holiest shrine by Israeli soldiers. Israeli forces mounted a massive show of force around Haram Al Sharif and made at least four arrests, according to reports. In the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, protests were reported near mosques after Friday prayers. Demonstrators blocked roads with burning tyres and makeshift barricades. Troops fired tear-gas to break up protests in the West Bank

town of Ramallah and the Amari refugee camp, where Arabs stoned soldiers and at least one man was arrested, the army said. Residents in the Gaza Strip said troops fired tear-gas in the town of Beit Hanoun and a woman was taken to hospital after being beaten by troops. U.N. relief workers and Israeli newspapers accused the army of brutality in enforcing a new policy, deployed by the United States and Britain, of beating Arab protesters. U.N. clinic and government hospital records showed 200 Palestinians were treated for broken limbs in the last three

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Israeli soldiers manhandle an Arab in Jerusalem

Solidarity strike paralyses Lebanon

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Strikers shut down much of Lebanon Friday to show solidarity with the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories. Banks, shops, financial markets and most other businesses stayed shut, and schools were also closed during the one-day strike. Traffic on the rainsoaked streets was light and most people stayed indoors. Revolutionary anti-Israeli songs blared from local radio stations between news bulletins. The stoppage was observed in northern and southern areas as well as the Bekaa Valley, while east Beirut and surrounding areas were unaffected.

The protest was called by Lebanon's Sunni grand mufti, Sheikh Hassan Khaled, and the vice-president of the higher Shi'ite Islamic Council, Sheikh Mohammad Mehdi Shamseddin. "The Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people is an aggression against all the Arab and Muslim people," a statement by the cleric said. "In the name of the Labanese we call on the Arab states to consider Friday a day of strike to support our people in Palestine," the statement added.

In east Beirut the Lebanese front, a coalition of mostly Christian right-wing parties, decided to ignore the call. Beirut airport, bakeries and newspapers remained open. They were declared exempt by the callers of the strike. About 50 Palestinian women staged a sit-in at a Beirut centre of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA). They walked through the streets from west Beirut's Shatila refugee camp on the city's southern bank to the seaside UNRWA centre in 'Ain-Mreisseh, chanting "long live our Palestine heroes."

Freedom of movement in and out of Shatila and the nearby Bourj Al Barajneh camp has been recovered by the Palestinians Wednesday, when Justice Minister Nabih Berri's Shi'ite Amal militia terminated a nearly three-year-old siege of the two shantytowns. Bulldozers pulverised barricades around the camps in Beirut Thursday, erasing some of the scars of the siege. "We're tired," said a 24-year-old Palestinian named Ghassan. "We want to live like normal people. We're not asking much... just for peace."

Haggard, exhausted refugees stared disbelievingly at the yellow machines flattening and shovelling the debris of war. (Continued on page 3)

Mubarak to propose moratorium on violence and Israeli settlement

CAIRO (Agencies) — A six-month halt to violence between Israelis and Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza is the centrepiece of new peace proposals by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Egyptian officials said Friday. They said Mubarak would discuss his ideas next week with President Ronald Reagan in Washington.

As part of his proposal, he would urge Israel's divided leadership to move towards an international Middle East peace conference under United Nations auspices, said the official, quoted by Reuters. The Israeli prime minister, Yitzhak Shamir, opposes the idea but the foreign minister, Shimon Peres, supports it.

The officials said Mubarak thought it important for the Israelis to regain Palestinian confidence in the occupied territories. Another part of his proposals, outlined in an interview Thursday with the Washington Post, was a demand that Israel stop Jewish settlement in the West Bank and Gaza during the proposed six-month moratorium on violence, they said.

The Washington Post quoted Mubarak as saying: "I know that not everybody will agree to all of this at first and that I will be criticised... but we cannot sit with our hands folded when the alarm is ringing."

Likud leader urges Arafat for moratorium

A Likud member of the Israeli Knesset was quoted Thursday as calling on Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat to recognise pre-1967 Israel and declare a six-month truce in the warfare against the Jewish state to pave the way for Arab-Israeli peace. In an interview with the London-based newsletter Mideast Mirror, Moshe Amirav said that if Arafat took these steps, he would "score a resounding victory, a victory for both nations" and clinch the right to a "Palestinian entity" on the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Saying he expected to be thrown out of his party next week, Amirav said more and more people in the headline Likud party, which is headed by Shamir, were joining him in believing that Israel's problem is "to have to sit with them" to solve it. Amirav, a member of the Likud central committee, said the mood in Israel was one in which people were looking for a "breather, an end to" the Palestinian protests.

"The Israeli government and the Israeli public are mainly in a state of shock over what is happening. Everybody here right now wants a breather, a short-term solution. A lot now depends on what the PLO and the Arab states intend to do," he said. Arab foreign ministers are expected to meet in Tunis Saturday to discuss the Palestinian uprising. An informed source told the Jordan Times in the Tunisian capital that the PLO had drafted a working paper to be submitted to the meeting calling for a United Nations force to be sent to the occupied territories to protect the Palestinians there pending a solution to the problem.

The Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) has given the PLO \$11 million to support the uprising in the occupied territories, the Saudi Press Agency said Thursday. In London, a senior PLO official said the PLO would use "all means and ways" to oppose Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

U.N. chief's report urges Security Council to persuade Israel to apply Geneva convention in occupied territories

Perez de Cuellar emphasises urgency of Arab-Israeli peace

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar Friday urged the Security Council to work for a negotiated end to the Arab-Israeli conflict and said Israel should be persuaded to apply as law the Geneva convention on the treatment of civilians in wartime.

In a report to the Security Council, Perez de Cuellar also renewed a call for the convening of an international peace conference under United Nations au-

spices, with the participation of all the parties concerned. A negotiated end to the Arab-Israeli conflict is the only way to protect Palestinians living under Israeli occupation, he said. In the 16-page report on the situation in the occupied territories, he ruled out sending in U.N. forces, saying the Israelis would never agree. His report is based on a one-week tour of the occupied territories by U.N. Under-Secretary-General Marrack Goulding.

Perez de Cuellar said the Palestinian protests in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in the past six weeks expressed the despair and hopelessness felt by the Palestinian population, more than half of whom had known nothing but occupation. "The result is a tragedy for both sides," Perez de Cuellar said. "Nothing illustrates this more clearly than the daily sight of

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Moscow asks Security Council to set up Mideast peace conference

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — The Soviet Union has proposed that the U.N. Security Council meet at the foreign minister level to discuss setting up an international conference on the Middle East.

In a letter to Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze referred to the "popular uprising" by Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied territories and said there was growing support for the idea of an international conference as the only realistic means of achieving a settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The letter was released to the press on Thursday.

Shevardnadze said the Palestinian protests show the "dangerous nature of the delusions of those who try to keep at any cost the land of others" and who "refuse to look in a serious and business-like manner for means of unblocking the situation in the Middle East."

Referring to his proposal at a Madrid news conference Thursday, Shevardnadze said: "The situation has deteriorated so much that some very dynamic and energetic action is needed in the Security Council."

He continued: "We suggest that the members of the Security Council proceed to consultations to consider the relevant questions." "The initiative in this matter, we believe, could belong to the permanent members of the council. Conclusions and recommendations arrived at during such consultations could be considered at a formal meeting of the council."

"In view of the particular importance of this question for the maintenance of international security, we propose that such a meeting should be held at the foreign minister level."

The Soviet minister said he hoped Perez de Cuellar would use the means at his disposal and his personal authority to contribute effectively to a "general agreement on immediate practical steps for the convening of an international conference on the Middle East."

Shevardnadze, whose country has pressed for such a conference for several years, said support for the idea was clearly reflected during the most recent session of the General Assembly.

It was particularly urgent now to transform the political will of states reflected in the assembly decisions into "specific and practical steps to solve the hard-core problems of the Middle East," he said.

Iran and Iraq keep up attacks on Gulf shipping

DUBAI (Agencies) — Iran attacked two ships in the southern Gulf Friday, one apparently by mistake, and Iraq said its jets had raided a tanker in the latest round of tit-for-tat raids. Shipping sources said Iranian gunboats seemed to have chosen the wrong target when they broke a six-day lull in attacks with a raid on a Singapore tanker carrying highly volatile fuel to Iran.

There were no casualties in the attack on the 11,470-tonne liquid petroleum and gas carrier Havill, but the sources told Renter one of the vessel's cargo tanks was punctured and leaking. Six hours later, two gunboats bombarded the 157,849-tonne Panamanian tanker Topaz with 12 rocket-propelled grenades as it sailed through the Strait of Hormuz in ballast.

In Baghdad, a military spokesman said Iraqi jets attacked a tanker near Iran's Gulf coast Friday but there was no immediate independent confirmation of the raid. The crew of the Topaz, which normally carries crude oil for Iran, told reporters in a helicopter that Iranian gunboats had approached from behind and asked the ship's destination.

When told it was heading to stop its engines and then opened fire, starting a small fire onboard. The crew said an Omani warship sped to their aid and interrupted a nearby Iranian warship which questioned them by radio. "You are violating international law by calling this ship which

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Thatcher: Conventional and chemical arms should be reduced

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher told the United States Friday that reductions in conventional and chemical weapons were vital to the Western alliance. In interviews from London with the four main U.S. television networks, Thatcher also declared she and other North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) leaders fully supported a medium-range nuclear arms treaty U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev signed in December. But foreshadowing what NATO leaders will tell Reagan at a summit meeting in Brussels in March she told the ABC network: "It is vital we concentrate on reducing conventional forces and on getting down the tremendous preponderance of chemical weapons in the Soviet Union."

Thatcher said in Soviet-American talks aimed at a new summit between Reagan and Gorbachev, Moscow would seek a treaty reducing the superpowers' nuclear arms arsenal by 50 per cent. "We must insist on reducing conventional and chemical weapons so we still maintain the balance of forces in Europe," she told ABC.

U.S. tables new proposal. In Geneva, the United States presented a new draft treaty aimed at controlling space-based weapons during a special negotiating session Friday with the Soviet Union, a senior U.S. negotiator said.

Henry Cooper, head of the U.S. team on defence and space arms, outlined the draft for Soviet negotiator Yuri Kuznetsov and his team during the session at the U.S. diplomatic mission. Cooper told reporters the draft treaty, the first on space arms by the Americans in nearly three years of talks, would enable Washington to pursue its "Star Wars" missile defence project.

AIDS threat seen minimal in conservative Jordan

By Sa'ad G. Hatfar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Despite the deaths of three Jordanians from acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) and the confirmation that eight others are carriers of the virus, official and private medical sources in Jordan are confident the Kingdom can contain the spread of the killer disease.

"Three fatal cases reported here were contracted abroad, and Jordan is taking all necessary preventive measures to control the disease," said Dr. Hani Shammout, head of the Health Ministry's Communicable Diseases Department (CDD). Shammout told the Jordan Times the three had caught the AIDS virus through blood transfusions during surgery performed abroad. He emphasised that all blood donors in the Kingdom were screened for AIDS-associated antibodies before any blood transfusions were performed.

"Two of the victims were Jordanian-born foreign nationals who died abroad and were brought here last year for burial under strict preventive measures," said Shammout adding that the third patient was a Jordanian expatriate working in Kuwait. In 1981, the victim was seriously injured in a car accident and was given blood during surgery. The blood units had not been screened for AIDS. A Syrian female who also had a blood transfusion died last year while being treated in Jordan. Shammout said the spread of the disease in the Kingdom was very unlikely, due to the "conservative, non-promiscuous nature of our community." His optimism was echoed by several private physicians interviewed by the Jordan Times.

Dr. Yahya Dajani, a veteran lab technician who introduced blood testing for AIDS in his laboratory in 1986, said Jordan's social conservatism and the rarity of drug addiction cases make Jordanians living in the country relatively safe. "I can say that Jordan is a safe country," said Dajani commenting the Health Ministry's programmes of public awareness. He pointed out that all imported blood products were to be certified AIDS-free before allowed into the country. Though the accuracy of blood screening is not fully proved, Dajani said, the method is known to detect most of the cases. Out of 20,000 blood units screened in 1987, only one was found containing AIDS virus, according to Shammout.

Dr. Najwa Khouri, a paediatrician at the University of Jordan Hospital, said the spread of the dangerous disease was unlikely to grow to epidemic proportions in Jordan due to the community's conservative traditions. Dr. Maurice Dahdaleh, a leading neurologist, also cited the conservative set-up of Jordanian society and ruled out the spread of the disease in the country. The most likely means for the spread of the disease, according to Dahdaleh, is through either Jordanian expatriates, students abroad or foreign visitors to the Kingdom.

The Health Ministry, in cooperation with the World Health Organisation (WHO), is distributing leaflets at Queen Alia International Airport for Jordanians travelling abroad. Furthermore, Shammout says, the Ministry of Health is in the process of introducing special educational programmes for students as part of extra-curricular public awareness activities in cooperation with the Ministry of Education. Shammout expressed concern over the potential exposure to the virus of approximately 70,000 Jordanian students studying abroad. "Our concern is that we cannot reach this segment of the population who will eventually return to the Kingdom," he said. Nearly 350,000 Jordanian expatriates living in the region could also be exposed to infection, he said. Shammout attributed the high risk of AIDS infection in Gulf states to the fact that these countries import blood and blood products from Latin American countries, whose blood donors include a relatively large number of drug addicts. One of the proven modes of transmission of the AIDS virus is through infected hypodermic needles used by intravenous drug users. Jordan does not import blood and has recently started processing blood products.

Shammout said the eight Jordanian AIDS carriers were leading a normal life hoping for a possible cure for AIDS in the near future. "Husbands and wives are living together normally but they are advised to follow precautionary measures for their safety," he said, adding that married female carriers were advised not to get pregnant. Shammout refused to divulge names, ages or any other information about the patients other than saying they fall within the 25-40 age group. Experts have forecast the number of AIDS cases worldwide to increase from 150,000 to 400,000 in the next 12 months, and over a million cases by 1991.

Since AIDS was first clinically diagnosed in 1981, a total of 72,000 victims have died in 151 countries, and millions more are estimated to be carriers of the virus but have not yet developed the symptoms. More people, studies suggest, will die of AIDS in the next five years than were killed in World War II and research and treatment will cost \$8 billion to \$10 billion a year by 1990.

200 Arabs suffer fractured limbs in 3 days

Israeli troops accused of brutality against protesters

TEL AVIV (R) — U.N. relief workers and Israeli newspapers accused the Israeli army Friday of brutality in enforcing a new policy, criticised by the United States, of beating protesters in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

U.N. clinic and government hospital records show more than 200 Palestinians suffered fractured limbs in the three days since Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin declared the army would use "might, power and beatings" to crush unrest.

In some areas, soldiers entered Arab homes and beat whole families, witnesses said. Troops clubbed many people not involved in demonstrations, as well as publicly beating suspects under arrest for curfew violations.

Asked about the beatings, Police Minister Haim Bar Lev told reporters Friday: "It is to my mind an unfortunate term. When the police or the military have to exert reasonable force, they do it."

Asked if this included breaking people's bones, he replied: "It is not defined in orthopaedic terms."

The Jerusalem Post quoted a senior military source as saying the policy was aimed at "striking fear of the army" into increasingly defiant Palestinian demonstrators.

"The reins of discipline have been loosened to restore IDF (Israeli army) deterrence," he was quoted as saying. The source conceded there had been instances of "irregularities" in enforcing the policy.

Rabin defended the new policy this week by saying it was better to beat protesters than to shoot them.

Israeli troops have shot dead 39 Palestinians and wounded more than 300 by gunfire since the uprising began on Dec. 9.

The independent daily Haaretz said 197 people had been treated for fractures as a result of beatings in the Gaza Strip alone in the last

Jahalya Refugee Camp in the Gaza Strip Tuesday shows 12 members of a single family, aged between 10 and 54, were treated at a U.N. clinic for severe beatings.

In another case on the same day, six members of a family in another part of the camp required treatment for injuries to the head, arms, chest and legs.

In Gaza's Al Ahli Hospital, a 50-year-old disabled man who breathes through a tube inserted through his windpipe after a throat cancer operation has been unconscious for two days with multiple fractures and wounds after being beaten in Jahalya.

Army confiscates ID cards

As part of its crackdown on Palestinian rebellion, the army has been confiscating identity cards Arabs need to move about the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The 1.5 million residents of the occupied territories must carry the Israeli-issued ID cards to go almost anywhere and to deal with government agencies.

For example, if a Palestinian is stopped at one of the many army roadblocks and doesn't carry the card, he is subject to immediate arrest.

In one widespread practice, soldiers stop motorists and passers-by, take their papers and order them to remove stones and burning tires left behind by demonstrators. If they comply, the cards are returned.

Army patrols also stop Palestinians in the streets and ask to see identification, said Elias Zana-niri, editor of the Arab-run Palestine Press Service. "If it's not the man's lucky day, they will confiscate his papers," he said.

Traders caught between army and protesters

Palestinian shopkeepers are caught between calls for protest strikes against Israeli rule and

troops who, they say, often damage their shops when they force them to open.

"If you don't open voluntarily, they either force you open or weld you shut," one merchant said.

Traders have observed intermittent strikes since the anti-Israeli uprising broke out.

Many shops in the West Bank town of Ramallah bear extensive signs of damage which their owners say was caused by troops with heavy boltcutters tearing locks from their doors.

Those who ignore the strike call risk retaliation from their own community.

A money-changer's store in Arab East Jerusalem was burned earlier this week and a car belonging to a local shopkeeper was torched during the night. Security sources said both attacks seemed to be retribution for strike-breaking.

"No sooner do soldiers leave the shop after forcing me to open than I get an anonymous call warning it will be torched if I don't close immediately," a Ramallah shopkeeper sighed.

In East Jerusalem, police say Arab youths masked by Keffiyeh headscarves roam the streets enforcing the strike.

Ramallah shopkeepers have found one way out of the quandary — they open their stores but refuse to serve customers.

"The soldiers can make us open but they can't make us sell," a merchant told Reuters.

The stoppage is hitting shopkeepers' pockets hard.

No one is prepared to estimate the volume of lost trade but Jerusalem's Israeli mayor Teddy Kolek has warned strikers not to expect any reduction in their city taxes.

The Ramallah shopkeeper said he and his neighbours could survive for as long as the strikes last.

"We have learned to live on very little," he said.

Reagan says Palestinians must take part in talks

RABAT (R) — Palestinians should participate in every stage of the negotiating process on the occupied territories, President Ronald Reagan has said in a message to Morocco's King Hassan.

"The U.S. has made clear its belief that the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people must be addressed in any agreement on the final status of the occupied territories, and that there should be Palestinian participation at every stage of the negotiating process," Reagan said.

Reagan's message responded to statements the king made at a meeting of the Organisation of Islamic Conference's (OIC) Jerusalem Committee on Jan. 5 devoted to the protests in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

In his message, released to the press by the Interior and Information Ministry, Reagan said the principles of liberty and human dignity "continue to guide our search for peace and stability."

"Nowhere is the need for stability felt more acutely than in the Middle East. The tragic events we have witnessed in the West Bank and Gaza remind us all of the need for renewed urgency in the search for a solution," he said.

Reagan said the U.S. had "urged calm and restraint, calling on both sides to redouble efforts to avoid confrontation."

"Realism is needed on all sides, and all sides must be willing to take practical, not just rhetorical, positions that make progress more likely," he added.

"The U.S. will continue to work for a solution, urging and encouraging activities which will enable voices of reason and moderation on all sides to prevail. This is vital if the essential work of peace is to go forward," he concluded.

An official Moroccan source said Reagan's message and the king's remarks would be communicated to the U.N. secretary-general, the OIC, and the Arab League ministers who are due to hold an emergency meeting in Tunis this week to discuss the disturbances on the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Former U.S. National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane called Thursday for the creation of an international fund for social and economic projects in the Middle East which could help end unrest in the Israeli-occupied territories.

McFarlane told a forum, held to discuss the political and energy implications of the Middle East crisis, that wealthy Western nations and Japan should cooperate to raise around \$50 billion.

The money, to be collected and disbursed over a period of five to 10 years, would be used for job creation, health care and educational projects in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip as well as other areas of tension.

Tunis-Cairo ties to resume in 2 days

CAIRO (Agencies) — Tunisia will resume diplomatic relations with Egypt this weekend, Egypt's state-owned Middle East News Agency (MENA) said Friday. That will leave only five states still participating in an almost 9-year-old diplomatic boycott of Cairo.

In a report from Tunisia's capital Tunis, the agency said completion of "technical arrangements" for restoration was expected within 24 hours.

Earlier, Tunisian diplomats in Cairo speaking on condition of anonymity told the Associated Press that the decision to resume ties already has been made.

The diplomats said the official announcement would come by early February, but sources close to Tunisia's mission in Cairo said it will be made this weekend. It probably will be timed to correspond with the return home of Tunisian Prime Minister Hedi Al Baccouche, who currently is touring Arab countries in the Gulf region, the sources said.

Baccouche, who stopped in Cairo for two hours en route to the Gulf, told a news conference in Kuwait last Tuesday that the restoration of ties with Egypt

"will be declared shortly." He said the move "will be motivated by our conviction that Egypt under (President) Hosni Mubarak is doing its utmost to play its full role in support of the Arab cause."

Tunisia will be the 10th Arab League member to resume Egyptian relations broken in 1979 after the separate peace treaty with Israel. A resolution by an Arab League summit in Amman last November opened the way for collective diplomatic reconciliation.

The Tunisian resumption will leave only five of the league's 22 members without diplomatic ties to Cairo — Syria, Libya, South Yemen, Algeria and Lebanon.

In addition to the 1979 diplomatic sanctions against Egypt, the league moved its headquarters from Cairo to Tunis.

At his Kuwait news conference, Baccouche said it will be "up to the Arab states to decide on the future venue of the headquarters."

The Amman summit failed to agree to overturn a 1979 decision suspending Egypt's league membership, mainly because of opposition by Syria and Libya.

This makes it unlikely that a decision will be made in the near future to return league headquarters to Cairo.

Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi will visit Tunisia this month despite its decision to resume relations with Egypt. Tunisian officials said Thursday.

Algeria helped bring Tunisia and Libya closer and hopes to include Tripoli in a treaty of fraternity and concord which groups Tunisia, Algeria and Mauritania.

A Palestinian leader meanwhile called on Arab League foreign ministers to demand that Egypt break diplomatic relations with Israel.

Foreign ministers of the Arab League member countries were to meet Saturday in Tunis to discuss the situation in the occupied territories.

In an interview with the Tunisian daily As-Sabah, Nayef Hawatmeh, secretary-general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, said the meeting provided an opportunity for Arab leaders to "demand Cairo break relations with the Zionist enemy in response to an appeal by the Palestinian people."

'Gulf states should help U.S. fleet'

WASHINGTON (R) — Saudi Arabia and Kuwait should increase their support for the U.S. naval armada in the Gulf, a congressman has said following a trip to the region.

There have been indications the United States and other Western allies would like to reduce their operations in the Gulf and shift some of the burden to nations in the region.

"The United States is providing defensive services for nations that appear unwilling to take any action to defend themselves," said Congressman Robert Torricelli, a Democrat on the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee.

There continues to be a problem with gaining naval support from nations in the region, he told a small group of reporters in assessing his trip to the troubled area.

"I visited the impressive naval facilities of Saudi Arabia, with ships that could make a real contribution to the escort operations and the clearing of mines, but they had a very limited deployment and would not take the major responsibilities," he said.

Study shows water 'may trigger' Middle East upheaval

WASHINGTON (R) — "By the year 2000, water — not oil — will be the dominant resource issue of the Middle East," according to a report issued by the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS).

Joyce Starr and Daniel Stoll of the staff of the independent research group said political struggles over water shortages could rip apart the fragile ties between states there and lead to unprecedented upheavals.

They said they focused on the area's three major river basins — the Jordan, Tigris-Euphrates and Nile — and found that prospective shortages for Egypt, Jordan, Israel, the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, Syria and Iraq were especially alarming.

"If present consumption patterns continue, emerging water shortages, combined with a deterioration in water quality, will lead to more desperate competition and conflict," Starr and Stoll said.

They said the coming crisis could be traced to increased development leading to more water use, inefficient maintenance and improper operation of water facilities, and poor cooperation among nations sharing common water resources.

not waiting much longer to get one going.

The prime minister was not asked about the possibility of an international conference on the Palestinian question, which the Soviet Union has called for. The United States is opposed to giving the Soviets an opening to deepen their influence in the Middle East.

Meanwhile, Britain joined the United States Friday in deploring Israel's policy of using clubs to quell protest in occupied territories and called for an urgent international conference on the Middle East.

A foreign Office spokesman said the beatings were a totally unacceptable response to the problems of the territories.

"The British government deplores the remarks made in the Knesset (Israeli parliament) by the Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin that demonstrators in the occupied territories should be beaten to control unrest," the spokesman said.

"The use of violence and the brutal effect of such policies cannot contribute to finding a solution. Progress towards a political solution is urgently needed and we believe that an international conference offers the best way forward," the spokesman added.

Thatcher: Palestinians must have self-determination

WASHINGTON (R) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher called Friday for bilateral Israeli-Palestinian negotiations aimed at self-determination for the West Bank and Gaza.

"The United States can decide its own future, democracies can. They have self-determination. So does Israel. You cannot have it yourself and deny it to others," she said in an interview from London with U.S. television.

She said Britain had been urging bilateral negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians so "the Palestinian people can determine their own future," possibly through a federation with Jordan, which she supports.

The prime minister said the current clashes between Israelis and Palestinians reflect the fact that despite eight years of trying, negotiations have not started.

"We have been trying to put pressure on Israel to get an initiative going," she said. "We are very friendly with both Israel and the Palestinians and in particular with King Hussein, who had a very excellent summit in Amman, very diplomatic, very wise."

Thatcher said she had been hoping for an American initiative in the region. "What is happening now stresses the importance of

Europarliament urges Israel to stop reprisals

STRASBOURG (Agencies) — The European Parliament has called on Israel to halt reprisals against Palestinian protesters in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, and a top European Community (EC) executive denounced Israel for "scandalous" acts of repression.

The 518-member parliament, in a resolution adopted Thursday by a show of hands, urged Israeli

authorities to abide by international treaties on the conduct of occupying forces and to cease reprisals.

It also appealed to Israel to stop deporting Palestinian civilians.

Claude Cheysson, the EC commissioner in charge of Mediterranean policy, criticised the Israeli army for "shameful" conduct in dealing with Palestinians in the

occupied lands.

"It's scandalous in the true meaning of the word that the people who suffered so much in the past are now themselves guilty of repression," the former French foreign minister said in an address to the assembly.

Cheysson said the disturbances underscore the need for an international peace conference on the Middle East.

Sudan seizes 11 car-loads of weapons

KHARTOUM (R) — Authorities in western Sudan have seized 11 vehicles loaded with guns and owned by a group opposed to the government of neighbouring Chad. Khartoum newspapers reported Friday.

A patrol of Sudanese police and soldiers spotted 11 vehicles carrying the guns in western Darfur province and arrested their drivers.

They quoted the governor of the province as saying that his government was cooperating with authorities in eastern Chad in maintaining law and order in the region.

Kuwait called on to show video of jailed 17

NEW YORK (R) — A former U.S. hostage has called for Kuwait to issue a videotape of 17 Arab guerrillas jailed in connection with bombing attacks, saying this would improve the treatment of kidnap victims in Lebanon.

David Jacobsen, who was held for 18 months in Beirut by the Islamic Jihad group, told Reuters a videotape would refute charges by pro-Iranian groups that the 17 were being mistreated in a Kuwait prison.

"I have no doubt that the 17 are being treated properly, but if Kuwait would allow an independent humanitarian organisation to make a videotape, it would disprove the charges," Jacobsen said.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION
Tel: 77111-19

PROGRAMME ONE
15:30 Koran
15:35 Programme Review
15:45 Children's programme
16:00 The Bunty
16:10 Eureka
16:35 How Things Work
17:05 Trips
17:20 Winter Olympic Games
17:30 Arabic series
19:05 Message from Iraq
19:15 Family programme
19:45 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:40 Arabic series
21:40 Local historical seminar
22:15 Varieties
23:00 News Summary in Arabic
23:15 Close down

PROGRAMME TWO
17:45 La gerfaut
18:00 News in French
19:15 French varieties: Un OB de plus
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Science World
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Married with Children (comedy)
21:00 Magazine Zero One
21:10 Saturday Variety Show
22:30 News in English
22:30 Feature film: "Blues Brothers"

RADIO JORDAN
835 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM
& partly on 95.0 KHz, SW
Tel: 77111-19

07:00 Morning Show
07:30 Newsday
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 Morning Show Cont.
11:00 Hitville: The Story of Motown
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:30 Jordan Weekly
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumental Old favorites
17:00 Special Feature
17:30 Good Old Days
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Top Twenty
18:05 Newsday/Music
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Young Sound
20:30 Discovering Music
21:00 Play of the Week
22:00 Country Music

BBC WORLD SERVICE
639, 720, 1223 KHz

06:00 Newsday 06:30 Here's Humph
06:40 Reflections 06:50 Financial Special
07:00 World News 07:20 24 Hours
News Summary 07:30 Personal View
07:45 The World Today 08:00 Newsday
08:30 Meridian 09:00 World News
09:30 24 Hours News Summary 09:30
From the Weeklies 09:45 Network UK
10:00 World News 10:05 Reflections
10:15 A Jolly Good Show 11:00 World
News 11:00 British Forces Review 11:15
The World Today 11:30 Financial
News Sports Roundup 11:45 Personal
View 12:00 News Summary: Here's
Humph 12:15 Letter from America
12:30 People and Politics 13:00 About
Britain 13:15 Chain Reaction 13:30
Meridian 14:00 Radio Newsworld 14:15
Music for the Sun King 14:45 Good
Books 15:00 Album Time 15:00
Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
Special 16:00 News Summary: Satur-
day Special 16:30 Sportsworld 17:00
Newsworld 17:15 Sportsworld 18:00
World News 18:00 Commentary 18:15
Sportsworld 19:00 News Summary:
Sportsworld 19:45 Sports Round-up
20:00 News Summary: Play Cross
Purpose 20:30 Musical Masters of the
Baroque 21:00 News Summary: Play of
the Week: Chicken Soup with Barley
21:30 News 21:30 World News 22:30
Meridian 23:00 News Summary:
Health Matters 23:15 Music for a
While 23:30 People and Politics 24:00
World News 01:00 Commentary 01:30
Anything Goes

VOICE OF AMERICA
MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565,
11740, 11925 and 12210 KHz

06:00 News 06:10 VOA Morning 07:00
News 07:10 VOA Morning 08:00 News
08:10 VOA Morning 17:00 News 17:10
Closeup 17:30 Special Conference: USA
18:00 News 18:10 American View-
points 18:30 Special English News 18:35
Features 19:00 News 19:10 Weekend
20:00 News 20:10 Closeup 20:30 Special
English News & Features 21:00
News 21:10 American Viewpoints
21:30 News Conference, USA 22:00
News 22:10 Music, USA Jazz 22:35
Editorial 22:55 Editorial 23:00 News
23:10 Communications World 23:30
Weekend Magazine

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* A painting exhibition by German artist Ingeborg Grosjean at the Spanish Cultural Centre (until Jan. 30).

* An exhibition about medical research in France at the French Cultural Centre (until Jan. 28).

* An exhibition of colour slides entitled "Mosaics in Jordan: An Art and Culture" by Boghos Darakjian at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Jan. 24).

* Plastic art exhibition, by Marwan Altan at the Soviet Cultural Centre.

FILM

* "Wozynek" (English subtitles) at 8:00 p.m. at the Goethe Institute.

VIDEO

* "La tradition et la memoire" at 4:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267
American Centre 644370
Turkish Cultural Centre 6361478
French Cultural Centre 637009
Goethe Institute 641093
Soviet Cultural Centre 644203
Spanish Cultural Centre 620409
Turkish Cultural Centre 639777
Haya Arts Centre 651915
Husseini Youth City 6018116
Y.W.C.A. 641793
Y.W.M.A. 664251
Amman Municipal Library 637111
Univ. of Jordan Library 843555

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum" Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics

from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.

SERVICE CLUBS

The Amman Lions Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.

Philadelphian Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.

Royal Automobile Club. Jabel Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 816534, 817534.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman, Tel. 624590.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Luweibdeh, Tel. 677440.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Hussein, Tel. 661777.

Terrassina Church (Roman Catholic), Jabel Luweibdeh, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel. 622360.

Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, Tel. 623541.

Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabel Amman, Tel. 625383, chaplain's residence tel. 601359.

Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 717131.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 717151.

Amman International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, Tel. 677534.

Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) Amman, Arabic Service: Sunday 7 p.m. Rev. N. Suir 811295.

Rainbow Congregation (meets at the Good Shepherd's Church) Inter-denominational-ecumenical-English Service: Sunday 6:30 p.m. Tel. 625652, Rev. Vol.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport. Tel. (08) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS
ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

06:30 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
07:30 Kuwait (KU)
08:30 Cairo (RJ)
09:30 Damascus (RJ)
09:30 Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
09:30 Dhahran (RJ)
09:55 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)
10:30 Agaba (RJ)
10:45 Cairo (RJ)
12:00 New York, Vienna (RJ)
17:40 Athens (RJ)
18:05 Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)
19:40 Tripoli (RJ)
23:55 Agaba (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

02:45 Belgrade, Istanbul (JU)
13:40 Kuwait (KU)
14:45 Tripoli (LN)
15:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)
15:30 Athens (RJ)
16:35 Riyadh (SV)
17:45 Cairo (MS)
23:25 Paris, Damascus (AF)

DEPARTURES
ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

06:15 Agaba (RJ)
07:45 Agaba (RJ)
10:45 Tripoli (RJ)
11:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)
11:30 Athens (RJ)
11:30 Paris (RJ)
11:45 Rome, Madrid (RJ)
11:45 Geneva, Brussels (RJ)
12:15 London (RJ)
12:30 Frankfurt (RJ)
12:30 Cairo (RJ)
19:35 Kuwait (RJ)
19:50 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
20:45 Abu Dhabi, Jeddah (RJ)
21:40 Jeddah (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

Salt holds public rally in support of Palestinian uprising

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A public rally in support of the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories was held in the city of Salt, featuring prominent Palestinian and Jordanian speakers who praised the uprising, describing it as "a manifestation of the Palestinian people's will to resist the occupation."

Palestine National Council Speaker Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Saeh criticised what he called the "Arab Street" for its inadequate support of the uprising, while the rest of the world was "shaken by it."

"Why does the Arab-camera run to cocktail parties all over the world, while it is absent from Palestinian gatherings where

Palestinians are facing hunger, torture and misrepresentation?" Saeh asked, adding that there were many more, similar questions which needed to be explained.

Saeh said that during this "movement of the Palestinian giant," and the historical significance of the current uprising, it was incumbent upon each of us "to consider what he has done to benefit the uprising, which could very well have profound repercussions, possibly redirecting the flow of events, politically and socially, in the occupied territories."

In concluding his speech, Saeh called on all Arabs to work collectively towards reaching a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict that would fulfill Palestinian

aspirations and allow us to carry banners of Arab pride, dignity and freedom.

Hamad Al Farhan, a leading Jordanian businessman, said that the ongoing national uprising had brought all Arabs together in "one line, all feeling the same fear and facing the same enemy."

Farhan also reviewed the history of Palestinian resistance, and concluded that the "uprising of stones" was a pioneer act of resistance of the highest level, calling for an end to the "nightmare of occupation."

Jordanian lawyer Suleiman Al Hadidi praised the steadfastness of the Palestinians in the occupied territories and called for a joint Arab effort to support the Palestinians in their uprising.



Her Majesty Queen Noor Friday participates in a tree-planting ceremony in Al Lizzab forest as a part of the Kingdom's celebration of Arbor Day (Petra photo)

Queen takes part in tree-planting ceremony

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Friday participated in a tree-planting ceremony in Al Lizzab forest, near Jawa on the outskirts of Amman. The event was organised by the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN) as part of Jordan's celebration of Arbor Day.

Queen Noor's participation in the ceremony reflected her support and encouragement of all efforts to preserve nature and green the country.

The Ministry of Agriculture has allocated 185 dunums for greening this year, in response to

an RSCN request.

The RSCN planted 65 dunums in Al Lizzab forest with trees, making it the fifth such forest established by the society in the outskirts of Amman. The other forests are: Abdul Hamid Sharaf forest, Ballan forest, Muqablein forest and Al Hussein forest.

In establishing these forests, the RSCN manifested its belief that afforestation is not solely the responsibility of the Agriculture Ministry and government departments, rather, it is the duty of all sectors of society.

Envoy to Spain briefs parliament speaker on Palestinian uprising

MADRID (Petra) — Jordan's Ambassador to Spain, Mohammed 'Udwan, has briefed Spain's parliament speaker on the current uprising in the occupied Arab territories and explained Jordan's continuing efforts to seek a lasting settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

During the Thursday meeting, the ambassador also briefed the parliament speaker on the outcome of the Amman Arab summit held last November.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that the Spanish legislator voiced his country's "dislike at Israel's repressive measures against the Arab protesters in the West Bank and Gaza Strip," and said that "Israel has lost all credibility among the Spanish public as a result of its repressive actions."

Red Crescent following developments in occupied territories

In another development, President of the Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) Ahmad Abu Qoura said that the

JNRCS was following with concern the developments in the occupied territories in cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). He said that the Israeli authorities were obstructing the work of ICRC teams, banning them from entering areas where Israeli violations of Palestinian human rights were reported. The JNRCS is attempting to extend relief supplies to the Palestinians in the occupied territories through the ICRC, Abu Qoura noted.

He said that Israel, which signed the 1951 Geneva Conventions, was consistently violating the convention's articles which provide for the protection of civilians living under occupation.

Abu Qoura said that Israel was carrying out measures aimed at starving the residents of the Palestinian refugee camps, in addition to continuing its practices of evicting Palestinians from their homeland and demolishing Palestinian homes; all in violation of international principles and norms.

Parliament panels discuss support for Palestinian uprising in occupied territories

By Nermeen Murad
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Occupied Territories Affairs Committee and the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Lower House of Parliament have held a closed session during which they discussed anti-occupation protests in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The three-hour meeting held Thursday, and attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, dealt with the mounting repressive measures taken by the Israeli authorities against Palestinians in the occupied territories, and Jordan's role in extending financial and political support to the Palestinians there.

"Jordan is working quietly but efficiently in support of the national uprising in the occupied territories," a West Bank parliamentarian told the Jordan Times Thursday, adding that Jordan is not looking to gain credit for itself by publicising its efforts; rather, it is searching for ways to assist "our families in the occupied territories."

Rifai briefed the committees on the latest developments in the national uprising, and discussed Jordan's role in supporting the movement nationally and internationally under the guidance of His Majesty King Hussein, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

According to a senior Cabinet official, "Jordan is undertaking maximum measures to support the uprising, and will continue to do so both politically and economically." Another parliamentarian said that he was personally

"very satisfied with the support Jordan is giving."

The national uprising in the occupied territories was described by a Lower House member as a "spontaneous, self-motivated popular uprising which has changed political currents in Israel."

A senior information official said: "Members of the two committees differed on the effectiveness of the role of Jordanian media coverage of the uprising; but most agreed that there was a need for upgrading the Jordan Television Hebrew transmission in line with the significance of events."

Jordan has allocated monthly salaries for the families of Palestinians who have fallen martyr in the current uprising, and contacts have already been made with Egypt for the delivery of supplies to the occupied territories, with Jordan paying shipping expenses, according to another member of Parliament.

He added that there have also been extensive contacts with different Arab, Islamic, African and European countries to provide aid to the Palestinians in their revolt, and to exert political leverage against Israel in the United States and at the United Nations.

Nations.

According to one parliamentarian, "the results are already evident; reactions such as Mello's (British Foreign Office junior minister) statements in the West Bank, and the United States vote against the deportation of Palestinians, are only two examples."

The Parliament is expected to further discuss the uprising during their scheduled meeting Saturday, in which they will also review the Jordan Academy of Arabic draft law and the narcotics law.

On Wednesday, the Legal Committee of the Lower House discussed Temporary Law Number 2 of 1978, which amended the Press and Publication Law, and debated issuing a new press and publication law.

The discussion of a new press and publication law was postponed indefinitely due to controversy over Part B of Article 16, which gives the Prime Ministry authority to license or refuse to license and to renew or cancel the licence of a newspaper or magazine with a royal decree in the cases of licensing or re-licensing.

The law also stipulates that the decision would be absolute, with no right of appeal through any legal or administrative or executive authority, with the minister of information informing the owner of the newspaper or magazine of the decision.

Many parliamentarians called for allowing for the right of appeal in the case of revoking a licence, in order to study the reasons for the cancellation or consider sufficient financial compensation.

UDD allocates JD 10m to upgrade, expand Aqaba housing

AMMAN (J.T.) — Urban Development Department (UDD) Director-General Hisham Zagha said Friday that the department had decided to allocate approximately JD 10 million out of its total third project allocation of JD 32 million for housing projects in Aqaba. The projects will upgrade and expand housing in the Shalaleh, Salahuiddin quarters and Al Khazna (reservoir) area of Aqaba.

The Aqaba project is the UDD's first such endeavour outside of Greater Amman, according to Zagha. Zagha added that some 22,000 citizens will benefit from the

UDD housing projects, which are expected to be completed in 1991.

Agreement signed for construction of Aqaba project

The Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment, in cooperation with the UDD, will construct 274 housing units in Aqaba's Salahuiddin district at a cost of JD 350,000, and work is expected to begin on the project in February, according to an agreement signed here Thursday.

The agreement provides for a local construction company to

carry out the project, which entails developing the existing homes in the district and building 274 new units to house limited-income families.

In the process, residents who will lose their homes or sustain property losses will be compensated or moved to new units in the same district, according to the agreement.

In addition, a shopping centre including at least 13 stores will be built within the project, according to the agreement signed by Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Youssef Hamdan Al Jaber and the company's general manager.

Arab dentists voice support for Palestinians

DAMASCUS (Petra) — The Higher Council of the Arab Dentists Union (ADU) Friday stressed that the Palestinian national cause is the central Arab cause and pledged total support for the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories.

Concluding its session, the council called on all Arab organisations and ADU members to provide financial and moral support for the Palestinian revolt. The council also denounced the Israeli authorities' inhuman, repressive measures against the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

In addition, the council called on Arab countries to support the

Lebanese people and to work towards finding solution to the Lebanese problem, in order to prevent further death and destruction in the troubled country.

On the professional level, the council endorsed amendments to the ADU's statutes, and recommended that these amendments be submitted to the union's general assembly for endorsement during its meeting in April.

The council also stressed the need to urge the Council of Arab Health Ministers to adopt the Higher Arab Council Certificate in Dentistry Board, and entrusted the union's secretary general to follow up on the matter.

On Thursday, Jordan submit-

ted proposals to the council aimed at supporting the steadfastness of the Arabs and Arab dentists in the occupied territories. President of the Jordanian Dentists Association (JDA) Walid Maraqa, who headed Jordan's delegation to the meetings, said that the proposals were welcomed and supported by the participants.

Maraqa pointed out that the JDA was maintaining contact with its branch in Jerusalem, which groups over 200 dentists, in order to guarantee the receipt of financial aid and medicine by the Palestinians living under Israeli occupation.

Murder discovered in Qweismeh

AMMAN (J.T.) — In Qweismeh southeast of Amman, police said they found the body of a 45-year-old woman dumped in a muddy pit. The coroner who examined the body announced that the death was a result of murder, and the police immediately began investigating the crime, according to a report in the local Arabic press.

A road accident on the Amman-Irbid highway Thursday caused the injury of seven people and a three-hour disruption of traffic along the road. The accident, which was blamed on slippery road conditions and thick fog, involved a bus and a dump truck, both of which sustained heavy damage.

The accident occurred at Thaghat Asfour, a high point along the road leading out of Jerash towards Irbid. The traffic authorities had to find a diversion for traffic until the two vehicles were pulled out of the way, according to reports in the local press Friday.

The injured were taken to Jerash and Eldoun hospitals for treatment, the report said.

Bank employees union holds board elections

AMMAN (J.T.) — Elections for a new chairman and board of the General Union of Bank, Insurance, and Accounting Employees took place Friday at the Concord Cinema in Shamsiyya.

A total of 34 candidates ran for the nine-member board, and at least three contested for the chairmanship of the board.

Union Board Chairman Haidar Rasheed said that a total of 2,470 voters were eligible to vote in the election.

The candidates were grouped into three blocs led by Haidar

Rashid, Youssef Hourani and Samir Awamleh. Rashid said on the eve of the election that the union's new board would address the problem of unemployment among members, the presence of foreign bank employees in the country and the dismissal by some local banks of Jordanian employees.

His views were supported by Hourani, who said that the new board should look into improving health services for the employees, as well.

Retired police officers honoured

AMMAN (J.T.) — Five recently-retired senior police officers were presented with awards in recognition of their long and distinguished service.

In his address at the presentation ceremony Thursday, Public Security Department (PSD) Director-General Abdul Hadi Al Majali praised the dedication of the officers who, he said, had helped to ensure security in the country through many years of service.

The five officers honoured were: Major-General Sami

Saket, Major-General Issa Omari, Major-General Ahmad Abul Su'oud, Major-General Ghalib Dammur and Brigadier Musa Sweilem.

In reply to Majali's speech, Saket said that the retired officers were remain proud of their service and would remain faithful to the PSD and on call for duty to serve the nation.

The ceremony was attended by Minister of Interior Rajai Dajani, senior PSD officers and officials from Interior Ministry.

NEWS IN BRIEF

King visits GHQ

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, visited the Armed Forces General Headquarters where he met with Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker. During the Thursday visit, the King was briefed on the various activities and training programmes of the Armed Forces units and formations.

Mauritanian justice minister departs

AMMAN (Petra) — Mauritanian Minister of Justice Mohammad Salem Weld Mohammad Al Amin has left Amman after a brief visit to Jordan. Prior to his Thursday departure, Amin held talks with Minister of Justice Riad Shakaa on the outcome of the fourth session of the Arab Justice Ministers Council held recently in Amman. The two ministers also reviewed inter-Arab cooperation in the judicial affairs.

Iran and Iraq keep up tanker war

(Continued from page 1)

has already been struck by your ships," they quoted the Omani warship as saying.

The Iranian warship, identified by the reporters as support ship No. 42, said nothing more as the Omani warship escorted the Topaz away.

Shipping sources said the Iranian raids were launched in retaliation for a long-range Iraqi air raid on Iran's Lavan Island oil terminal Wednesday. A shipping source confirmed the raid Thursday but gave no further details.

Two Syrian leaders toured the Gulf region earlier this month with the declared aim of trying to stop the war spreading by setting up a dialogue between Iran and the six Arab states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

Syria said they also persuaded the Iranians to postpone a major ground offensive against the southern Iraqi city of Basra. Baghdad's press has described the diplomatic initiative by Damascus as an attempt to whitewash Tehran and isolate Iraq.

Jassem also criticised statements by Syrian leaders about attempts to patch up the long-standing feud between Baghdad and Damascus.

He said the Syrians appeared to think they held winning cards, "but Iraq has not and never will play with such cards."

Jassem said the Syrians were trying to suggest Iraq was hesitant and was putting forward conditions for normalising relations "and this is incorrect."

Solidarity strike paralyses Lebanon

(Continued from page 1)

One Bourj Al Barajneh undertaker said he had scraped graves in the ground for children, killed in the struggle with Argal.

"I buried with my bare hands some 400 people," Abdul Salam Mabout said. "These included babies who died while hiding in broken sewage pipes."

"It was the dirtiest and ugliest war... it was a tragedy, with no winners but all losers."

Some refugees had had nervous breakdowns and a few had tried to commit suicide, driven beyond endurance by constant shelling and confinement in the rubble-strewn camp.

U.N. chief stresses urgency of Arab-Israeli peace

(Continued from page 1)

young unarmed Palestinians in confrontation with Israeli soldiers of their own age.

"The underlying problem can only be resolved through a political settlement which responds both to the refusal of the Palestinian population of the territories to accept a future, under Israeli occupation and to Israel's determination to ensure its security and the well-being of its people," he said.

"U.N. should do more"

Perez de Cuellar said the United Nations should do more to end the squalid living conditions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"The disturbances were a reaction, supported by Palestinians of all age groups and all walks of life, to 20 years of occupation and to the lack of hope that it could be brought to an early end," he said.

"I believe that an urgent effort is required by the international community, led by the Security Council, to promote an effective negotiating process," Perez de Cuellar said.

He said the Arab-Israeli conflict should be settled at an international peace conference, something Israel has so far rejected. "The negotiation of a settlement will, of course, be exceptionally difficult, for it will require all concerned to move from positions to which they are at

present very strongly attached," Perez de Cuellar said in his report.

"I am conscious of the great complexity of the choices which confront them and I should like to take this opportunity to appeal to them to exercise restraint and to bring about that change of attitudes which will be necessary if a settlement is to be negotiated."

"Each side must put aside the often justified resentment it feels at past wrongs and understand better the legitimate interests and legitimate grievances of the other. Such understanding is not assisted by invective and abuse nor by sheltering behind the illusion that the other side does not exist."

"Equally, I appeal to the international community to help, both by reducing the violence of debates on the Arab-Israeli conflict and by consciously acting in a manner which promotes mutual understanding."

Call for Geneva convention

Referring to the 1949 Fourth Geneva Convention on occupied territories, Perez de Cuellar said:

"While that convention makes the occupying power responsible for maintaining law and order, its *raison d'être* is the safety and protection of the civilian population, for which the occupying power is no less responsible."

"My principal recommendation in this area," he said, "is that

the international community should make a concerted effort to persuade Israel to accept de jure (by right) applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention to the occupied territories and to correct its practices in order to comply fully with that convention."

It could not be emphasised too strongly, however, he said, that measures to enhance the safety and protection of the Palestinians in the occupied territories, urgently required though these were, would neither remove the causes of the latest events nor bring peace to the region.

He said he continued to believe that this should be achieved through a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement based on Security Council Resolutions 242 of 1967 and 338 of 1973 and taking fully into account the legitimate rights of the Palestinians, including self-determination.

The Security Council is expected to begin public consideration of the report Monday. Diplomats said that following a weekend meeting in Tunis of Arab foreign ministers might attend the council meetings.

Diplomats said that the governments of the 15 member states of the council would study Perez de Cuellar's talks in the interim and that a resolution related to it was unlikely to be drafted until that study was completed.

Israel's show of force fails to blunt resistance

(Continued from page 1)

days since the Israeli defence minister, Yitzhak Rabin, vowed the army would use "might, power and beatings" to crush the Palestinian uprising (See page 2).

Worshippers burst from the Al Aqsa Mosque chanting "God is great" and carrying a symbolic coffin after Friday prayers while an Israeli army helicopter buzzed overhead and police watched from nearby rooftops.

"In blood and spirit we shall redeem you, Palestine," the protesters chanted in unison, many hiding their faces with keffiyehs. A separate group of Palestinian women yelled nationalist slogans and waved their fists.

Hours earlier, a petrol-bomb exploded at the doorway to a branch of an Israeli bank a few hundred metres from the Old

City. There were no casualties and only minor damage.

Shaking their fists in the air and displaying Palestinian flags, the men and women marched around Haram Al Sharif while paramilitary police with clubs and rifles stood ready on the boundary.

The marchers dispersed after 35 minutes, drenched by a rain shower.

Elsewhere in the walled Old City, Palestinians threw stones at Israeli police along the Via Dolorosa.

Some police had entered on foot, others in jeeps which were parked along the cobblestone pathway. AP photographer Max Nash saw officers fire tear-gas. No injuries were reported.

In the Gaza Strip, Palestinians demonstrated after noon prayers at Gaza City's main Al Amani Mosque, chanting "our spirit is

for Palestine."

Protesters threw stones at about passing cars but there were no injuries and troops standing by did not intervene.

Earlier in the day, the army lifted curfews off four of the seaside strip's eight camps, but the army warned any uprising would be met with force.

Palestinian activists had declared Friday a day of remembrance for Arabs killed in the protests that have rocked the occupied territories for six weeks. United Nations figures put the number of those killed by Israeli gunfire at 38.

In the West Bank town of Jericho, Palestinians began protesting after Friday prayers, setting fire to tires and throwing stones, according to the Palestine Press Service.

Jordan Times

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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Al Ra'i: Jordan's support for uprising

AT the joint session of Parliament's foreign and occupied territories affairs, the prime minister reviewed the events in the occupied Arab territories and the uprising against the Israeli repression. Mr. Rifai informed the committees about the government's measures in support of the Arab people under Israeli rule and the outcome of King Hussein's contacts with world leaders to find a way to end the sufferings of the Palestinians and to ensure relief supplies to the refugees in their camps. The meeting has underlined the government's responsibility and also reaffirmed Jordan's national commitment towards our brothers in the occupied Arab land. The commitment represents a show of solidarity with the Arab inhabitants with whom Jordan maintains strong ties and carries on the struggle with them for a just solution for their problems. Jordan's stand reflects the unity of struggle and cohesion with the Arab people on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in the face of Israel's repression, designed to open the way for a lasting settlement and a permanent peace in our area. Jordan will remain committed to supporting the rights of the Palestinian people in their struggle to regain their rights and their land, and will continue to enhance their steadfastness in the face of all threats and challenges.

Al Dustour: Timely support

THE joint session of Parliament's foreign and occupied territories affairs committees heard the government's views about the current uprising in the occupied Arab territories and Jordan's consultations and contacts with world leaders. The prime minister who addressed the session presented a briefing on the government's measures for supporting the steadfastness of the Arab population under Israel's rule and also re-emphasised the Kingdom's continued efforts to establish peace in the region based on justice. This national commitment and support for our brothers comes at a crucial time when all efforts should be made and all ways explored for alleviating the sufferings of the Palestinians. King Hussein has been a staunch supporter of the Palestinian people's cause and his envoys have been delivering messages worldwide, in pursuit of efforts for ending the occupation of Arab land and ensuring the legitimate rights of the Palestinians in their own homeland. The King's contacts highlighted the need of an international conference which is the only means of ending the Arab-Israeli conflict and ensuring a durable peace in our region. The King has presented the Arab case to the world and has been exerting all efforts for the achievement of peace. We call on all peace-loving nations and all Arabs to extend a helping hand and help establish the aspired peace.

Sawt Al Shaab: Rifai briefs Parliament

JORDAN'S moves to ensure relief supplies to the Arab people under Israeli rule is part of an all out endeavour by the Kingdom to alleviate the sufferings of the Palestinians and a show of solidarity with the repressed people in their camps, towns and villages in the occupied territory. We are facing a ferocious enemy, trying with all its might to settle on our land employing an iron fist policy to consolidate occupation and deprive the Palestinians of their legitimate rights and homeland. Jordan has been striving to help the Palestinians achieve their goal and attain their aspired peace based on justice. The prime minister's statement to a joint session of Parliament's foreign and occupied territories affairs committees contained a briefing on Jordan's stand and the country's efforts towards this end. Jordan, he said, will continue to carry on with its policy, supporting the Palestinians and also seeking the convening of an international conference for the establishment of permanent peace. The deputies who spoke at the joint session voiced the Jordanian people's total support for the King's efforts and the government's efforts in supporting the uprising of the Palestinians and seeking a just and permanent peace.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: Uprising persists

AS the uprising against Israel has been escalating all the time, reports by foreign media clearly indicate that the Arab people are resolute and determined to carry on their struggle to achieve their rights and their objectives. At the same time Israel's information media have been maintaining a counter propaganda campaign and trying to deceive the world public opinion about the truth and the facts inside the occupied lands. What is more, the Israeli media have been trying to present the current revolt as a mere disturbance that would soon be put down and should not acquire worldwide attention. But we are certain that the Israeli will not succeed in their attempts to belittle the uprising of our people in the occupied territory and will not be able to mislead world public opinion about the facts that speak for themselves. Needless to say, that the current uprising has caused divisions within the Israeli ranks and will continue to gain more world support for the Palestinian cause. The uprising is clearly disturbing the occupation authorities and it is hoped that the world community and the United Nations will now make urgent moves for the establishment of peace and end the Arab-Israeli conflict on the basis of U.N. resolutions.

Al Dustour: Following on summit resolutions

THE prime minister visited Damascus on Wednesday in the course of the on-going consultations between Jordan and Syria on matters of concern to the whole Arab Nation. The visit and the talks with Syrian leaders are regarded as a follow up to the successful outcome of the Arab summit meeting held in Amman last November, and is aimed at rallying Arab ranks and consolidating solidarity among Arab states in the face of the current serious developments in the region. What the Arabs are facing now requires constant consultations, and the serious uprising and the Israeli repressive measures warrant constant efforts on the part of Arab states. The uprising was at the heart of the talks held in Damascus because Amman and Damascus shoulder heavy responsibility towards the Palestinian Arabs and continue to exert all possible efforts to end their sufferings. Jordan is clearly pursuing efforts at all levels to strengthen solidarity among the Arabs and to end all obstacles that can impede a pan-Arab action in the face of the conspiracies hatched by the nation's enemies.

Israeli employers feel loss of Arab Labour

By Dan Lzenberg
The Associated Press

YAVNE, Israel — A 20-year Israeli policy employing Palestinians has been threatened by six weeks of protests in the occupied territories in which up to half the workers have failed to show up at their jobs.

Government officials have played down the impact on the economy, but Israeli employers warn they will have to bring more labourers from abroad if the uprising continues.

About 105,000 Palestinians from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip work in Israel, most concentrated in low-skilled and low-paying jobs.

They work as waiters, mechanics, furniture makers, construction labourers, hospital orderlies, itinerant fruit pickers, cleaners, dishwashers and garbage collectors.

Many are found in so-called "slave markets" on the highway leading out of the Gaza Strip or near the old, walled city of Jerusalem where they wait, sometimes in vain, to be picked up by Jewish employers at the day's arbitrary rate.

The past six weeks of unrest has forced many to stay home. The problem is especially acute in the Gaza Strip where teenage Palestinians have blocked roads and stoned vehicles carrying workers to Israel. The

youths accuse the adults of collaborating with Israel by working for Jewish employers.

For its part, the army has imposed curfews on more than a dozen refugee camps and ordered all residents to stay indoors to suppress the disturbances.

The result is that on some days more than 50,000 Palestinians — about 3 per cent of the Israeli labour force — have failed to come to work.

For many reasons, Palestinian labour is a sensitive issue and officials are reluctant to admit that the labour loss is causing difficulties for Israel's economy, including the crucial export sector.

One example is the 10-week citrus harvest which began two weeks ago and is one of Israel's largest agricultural exports.

The harvest employs 15,000 fruit pickers, half of them Palestinians, according to Avner Miebail, spokesman for the government employment service.

To meet the crisis, Labour Minister Moshe Katzav granted work permits to 550 more residents of Israeli-controlled South Lebanon. About 1,250 Lebanese already work in Israel.

At the same time Education Minister Yitzhak Navon sent 10,000 students to the orchards. "We won't leave a single fruit on the tree just because of the Arab workers," said Michaeli, who added that demobilised soldiers and civil service volunteers

would also be brought in if necessary.

It is easy to tap national sentiment for the citrus harvest. Agriculture and the return to the land were key elements of the Zionist revival.

The same is not true for other hard-hit sectors of the economy, and Israeli businessmen are seeking less sentimental solutions.

Koby Rogobin, owner of a Tel Aviv construction company, said he wanted to import 40 Portuguese workers to take over scaffolding, plastering and floor-laying jobs from absent Palestinians.

"The Arabs don't come regularly and you can't run a business this way," Rogobin said.

Israel already employs 10,000 workers from such countries as Portugal, Ghana, the Philippines and Taiwan. Only one-quarter of them have work permits.

Chaim Kaminetz, manager of a textile factory in Yavne 40 miles southwest of Jerusalem, said he would seek more foreign workers if the unrest continued.

The 900-man factory employs 150 Palestinians from the Gaza Strip. Many stayed away during the uprising and production dropped, although Kaminetz declined to provide figures.

Kaminetz said he did not blame his workers. "They tried to come. Some of them made superhuman efforts, walking or hitchhiking to get here."

Palestinian uprising: Occupation has its price

By Anthony Lewis

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Palestinian protests over the last seven weeks have brought about at least one profound change in Israeli thinking. People no longer believe that it will be easy to go on occupying the West Bank and Gaza.

"Everyone has come face to face with the reality," an Israeli specialist on Arab affairs, Clinton Bailey, said. "You have a population out there that you really cannot control, or not without very great difficulty."

That is a basic change in perception. Until recently, as one person put it, "everyone said the occupation will just go on, the Arabs are contented enough. Now people know the status quo does not work."

Why? To start with, the military realities have changed. The Israeli army is no longer dealing with isolated incidents that a few soldiers could handle with a few shots in the air. It has on its hands what just about everyone now agrees is a genuine popular uprising.

The changed nature of the conflict has psychological consequences, too, for the army and the Israeli public. This cannot be justified as a war on terrorism. Young boys who throw stones at soldiers are not terrorists. The 40 Palestinians killed over these

weeks, one of them 10 years old, cannot be explained so easily.

"It is a situation of our 20-year-olds battling their 20-year-olds," Hirsch Goodman, the Jerusalem Post's military correspondent, wrote — "ours using armour, helicopters and guns; theirs, clubs, rocks and primitive Molotov cocktails."

Nor is it possible for any serious person to believe any longer that Palestinians are "contented" under occupation. To call the occupation "benign" was always wishful. The uprising against it makes manifest the real feelings of the occupied.

Rage is felt not only by young people crowded into the refugee camps of Gaza. Middle-class Palestinians in the West Bank are angry, too. Raja Sbeadeh, a well-known lawyer, speaks of feeling constantly "humiliated" by the occupation rules and bureaucrats, and by the "colonisation" of the land. In the middle of the current protests Israel's housing minister dedicated a new Jewish settlement in the West Bank.

If most Israelis understand now that continued occupation will be costly, the crucial question follows: Are they prepared to give up the occupied territories? And there the picture is not so clear.

The immediate effect of the Palestinian protests has been to harden the hawkish tone of

Israeli politics. Officials make hard-line statements about suppressing and uprising, and most of the public seems to approve.

But suppose Israelis find that the cost of suppression is high and unending. Suppose they find that they have to pay with their own values of democracy and human rights. What then?

Meron Benvenisti, the leading expert on the West Bank and Gaza, argues that rational judgments about the cost of the occupation will be overwhelmed by the emotions of a nationalism, in Israel as in other divided societies. "It will be said that you need the territories for survival," he says, "and then no cost is too much."

On the other side Yaron Ezrahi, professor of political science at the Hebrew University, says "the cost of suppression may exceed the point of tolerance in Israeli society." For that reason he questions the notion that protesters can be starved into submission by sealing refugee camps or by keeping Palestinians from jobs in Israel.

"Dehumanisation is easy when Palestinians are terrorists," Professor Ezrahi says, "but not when they're starving."

A debate is shaping up that cuts into the deepest Israeli sensitivities — and across party lines. The Mayor of Tel Aviv, Shlomo Lahat, a member of the right-wing Likud Party, has just come out for giving up the West Bank and Gaza as liabilities. Still ahead is the hard question of how withdrawal would be negotiated. The protests show more clearly than ever that Israel cannot deal with Jordan alone — that it must take account of the reality of Palestinian nationalism. That raises further Israeli doubts and fears. But now they, too, will be weighed against the perceived danger of continued occupation — The New York Times.

Is Sudan facing famine?

By Hamza Hendawi
Reuters

KHARTOUM — U.N. officials and relief workers say Sudan faces another devastating famine this year but the government calls the threat exaggerated.

Government officials say stocks of the staple millet and sorghum are enough to last Sudan's 23 million people through 1988 despite a disappointing 1987 harvest which brought in less than half the previous year's crop.

"If the need arises for food in one area, we shall just have to bring from elsewhere in Sudan," Agriculture Minister Omar Nour Al Dayem told a news conference.

He said reports of potential famine were caused by exaggerated figures for food requirements submitted to Khartoum by regional governments.

But Mohammad Kamel Shawk, the government's top relief executive, acknowledged lack of accurate information was making the assessment of food requirements difficult.

His agency, the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC), has asked donor countries to pay for more than 200,000 tonnes of food to meet shortfalls until the end of August.

Relief workers and United Nations officials said three million people could be starving in Sudan by October and charged that the authorities, keen to maintain a good image of their country abroad, were concealing the size of the problem.

They said drought and erratic rainfall had caused crop failures in the north west, the east and the south. Poor crops in the south were compounded by the civil war which has raged there since 1983, they said.

Some relief workers said food was already in such short supply

in parts of the country that the government should declare them disaster areas.

Sudan suffered a devastating drought in 1984-85, when famine in neighbouring Ethiopia brought the extent of the suffering home to the West.

Bumper harvests in 1985 and 1986 allowed Sudan to export sorghum again and build up a reserve of about 1.5 million tonnes, nearly half its annual consumption of cereals.

But the relief workers and U.N. officials said half the grain reserves were held by the private sector and the government would need to borrow extensively to buy it for distribution to the needy.

They said retail prices had already soared beyond what the average Sudanese peasant could afford. Merchants had begun hoarding grain in the hope of huge profits later, they said.

"The issue is not the national food balance sheet," said Dole Dodge, director of the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) in Sudan. "It is a question of household food security."

Another U.N. official said the government position that there would be no shortage this year was probably overoptimistic.

"By the last quarter of 1988 there would be no reserves left. This, in effect, means that if the 1988 harvest is poor then we may be facing a famine of proportions similar to the 1984-85 disaster," he said.

Another problem is transporting grain from areas of surplus to places where it is needed, said Aziz Saleh, director of the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in Sudan.

"You need assistance to finance an organised transport system and you also need somebody to finance the purchase of food to give it to the needy," Saleh told Reuters.

One minute

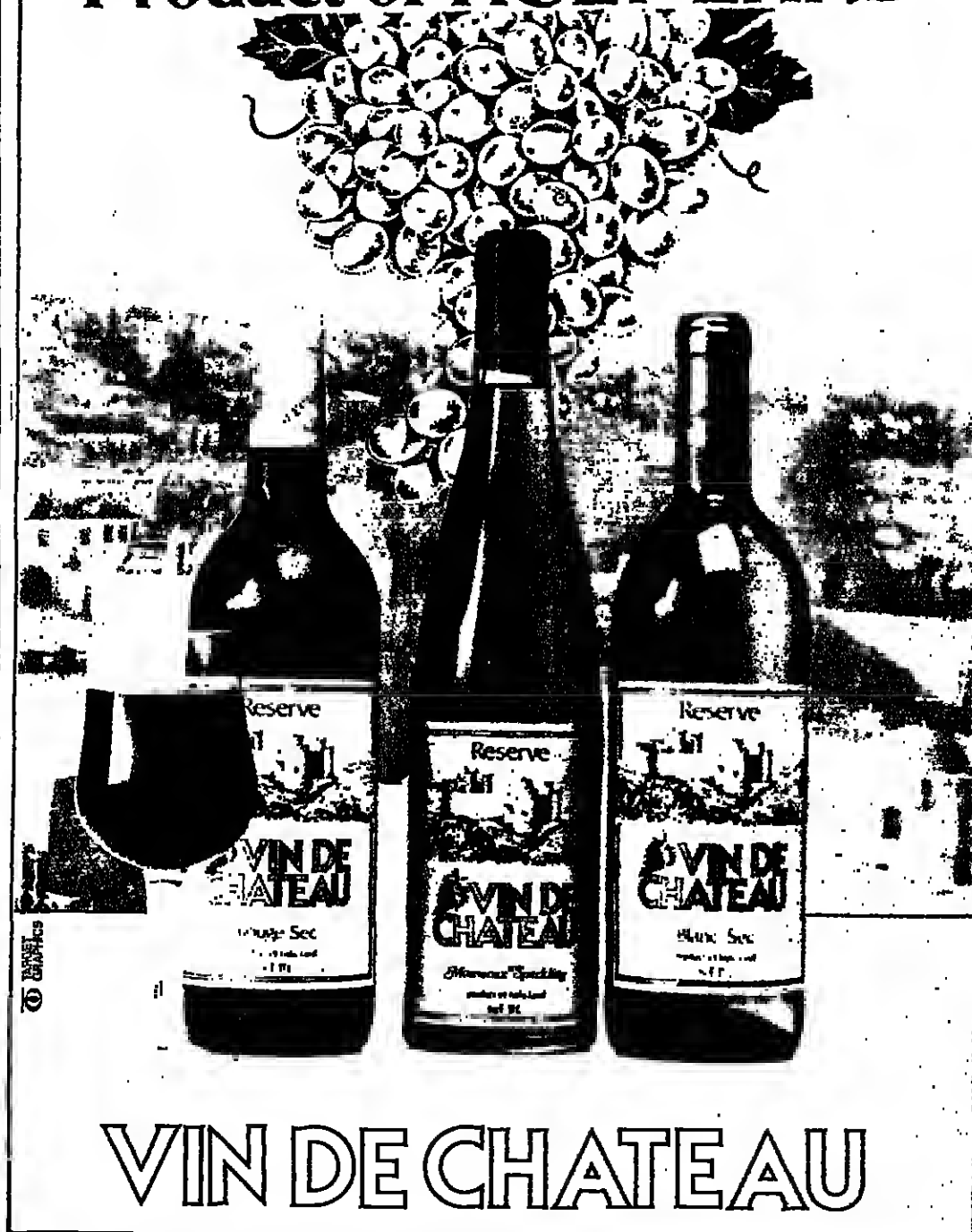
Reprinted from Al Qabas International

"A Tribute to Palestinian Martyrs During the days of uprising in Occupied Palestine"

"One minute" ... and all the Arab World stood positive, steadfast and still. While Palestinian seeds of growth sprang forth with determination and will. Hurting with force stones of astounding range and strength. In glorious endeavour to awaken the passive world at large. Stones, now stronger than any other weapons of any size. Thrown by hands that will one day rule and be wise. For what is life if the child is oppressed and enslaved? And Liberty is not free nor deeply honoured and engraved? Palestinian youth have dared to throw and stare with eyes that testify To the entire guilty world that this heroic generation continues to try. While we, in freedom, dragged into complacency only laugh and cal. Dancing and celebrating into the night until each were we greet. Yes! it's the sinful way of "Late to bed, late to rise. You must get wealthy even if you become unhealthy and naive." But today, in just "one minute" ... a scenario of forty years and tears. Flashed the homelessness, torment, misery and earned the dreaded fears. My son and daughter, my brother, my father and father of my son. When will you return victoriously and say proudly, "we have won"? Through my tears I can see the glory and valour of champions returned. Outstretched, my arms embrace Palestine for which I have endlessly yearned. The heroically buried stones have built an arsenal of military might And "the minute of solidarity" brings the hour of victory closer, within sight. For "one minute" we were all united and steadfast for a change. And Arab history turned over a finished chapter to a new page. Written in martyrs' blood that can never be wiped blank. Inspired to final victory by those courageous children whom we humbly thank.

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Ducks and fish dove in the middle of the 6th century A.D., found at Khirbet Al Mukhayyat.

Looking through coloured cubes

Salameh B. Ne'matt reviews Boghos Darakjian's photographic interpretation of Jordan's mosaics.

AMMAN — Very few people in Jordan know much about the ancient Byzantine art of mosaics, its distinguished characteristics and the various cultures that influenced this art since the Roman days.

A Jordanian photographer, aware of the public's little knowledge of Jordan's treasury of mosaics, has developed a novel method to introduce mosaics to Jordanians and to shed some light on the less monumental, but perhaps as important, historical antiquities in the Kingdom.

For the past 2½ years, Boghos Darakjian had been taking hundreds of photographs of mosaics in the country as part of his work as head of the photography section at the Department of Antiquities. Throughout that period,

he worked on his own private project aimed to introduce, in his own way, a sample of mosaics in Jordan through a method he calls "lighted colour transparencies." Fifty one of his transparencies are now on display at the Royal Cultural Centre in the first exhibition of its kind in Jordan.

A 'secret' technique

His technique involves taking the photography negatives, blow them up and print them on specially-made 1.5 millimetre gelatine slides. This method, which allows Darakjian to maintain good quality colours at any required size, has been in use for only a few years.

Darakjian does not like to go into the details of his technique as

this is "a secret of my profession." Darakjian says that when he converts the pictures to colour slides in any size, these slides are pressed against the inside of a specially-made transparent plastic board which is then fixed to a box that contains neon lights that are lit to produce the effect of "lighted colour transparencies."

The photographer, whose exhibition was opened by Her Majesty Queen Noor Tuesday, said that he was self-motivated in his work to produce his first exhibition.

The special boxes for Darakjian's 51 pieces were imported from Europe but "most of the work was done in Jordan," the photographer said. He pointed out that the cost of producing the same work abroad was triple the cost here in Jordan. All 51 works at the exhibition are for sale and the proceeds are to go to the benefit of Noor Al Hussein Foundation.

Mosaics as a subject, was chosen by Darakjian "because no one has touched on the subject seriously before."

"According to the photographer, 'very few people know how mosaics are done.' Discussing the advantages of his technique, he said that transparencies

make a great difference to the photograph. The colours become more vivid "and they look much better than prints. The details are emphasised and better contrasted with light unlike photo-prints which are flat... here, you see each stone in the mosaic."

As for the disadvantages, Darakjian said his technique, which he fully financed, was very costly compared to prints and paintings.

Mosaics of history

Arda Friej Dergarabedian, the photographer's sister in law told the Jordan Times that the exhibition served to inform people that mosaics is not something limited to the mosaic map in Madaba. "Most people who came to the exhibition did not know much about mosaics and what they meant in the historical sense."

In order to take better photographs of mosaics, the photographer had to transport water tanks to the middle of the desert so as to wash the mosaics before taking photographs.

The works on display are in three different sizes: 70 x 100 cm; 50 x 70 cm; and 30 x 40 cm. They are for sale for JD 335; JD 235 and JD 140 respectively.

The exhibition is scheduled to end Sunday. Darakjian said it could be extended.

He says that some of the mosaics in the exhibition could not be seen by the public on the site. "Some of them had been unearthed, photographed then buried again for preservation purposes." He says Jordan could not afford to unearth all of its archaeological treasures.

Darakjian also published a booklet on the exhibition which is sold at the Royal Cultural Centre for JD 1. The booklet to which Hanan Kurdi of the Department of Antiquities contributed, provides background information on the displayed transparencies.

Visitors commenting on the exhibition said they were surprised to know that such mosaics existed in Jordan. They said that they always thought Madaba was the only place where mosaics are found in the Kingdom.

The map of Madaba is the best known mosaic in Jordan, and depicts Biblical localities mentioned in the old and new testaments. This famous mosaic is not only a map of the Byzantine period but also a theological representation of the history of salvation placed in its geographical context, with Jerusalem as the centre of the inhabited world extending to the Biblical sites of Palestine, Jordan, Egypt, Syria and Lebanon.

In an introductory note to the exhibition's catalogue, Director of the Department of Antiquities Adnan Hadidi said that mosaics are some of the main artistic and cultural products of the land of Jordan especially in the Byzantine era.

"Byzantium's cultural creation is the domed church with its sumptuously sheathed interior of marble and mosaic. Buildings such as the church of Elias, Mary and Soreg, and the church of St. John the Baptist in Jerash as well as the church of the Apostles and the church of Virgin Mary in Madaba with their plectyrome revetments and their arrays of solemn mosaic figures may well claim to be some of the Byzantine artistic achievements par excellence."

"It gives me great satisfaction to have this opportunity to express my admiration for the organiser and owner of the exhibition, Mr. Boghos Darakjian, who in the midst of his busy schedule as photographer of the Department of Antiquities worked several extra hours during the last few months to prepare this splendid display."

During the summer of 1986, a new floor dated to 785 A.D. was unearthed in the town of Umm Er-Rasas ancient Kastron Mefaa, decorating the church of St. Stephen. The high quality of the

mosaic and the richness of its decoration make this church one of the most important archaeological monuments in Jordan, paralleled only by the Madaba map which was discovered in 1897.

The Madaba map

The major part of the mosaic, focuses on the double geographic frame depicting cities in the area. In the intercolumnar spaces are a double series of cities, to the north are the holy city of Jerusalem, Neapolis, Sebastia, Caesarea, Diopolis, Eleutheropolis, Askalon, and Gaza. To the south are seven cities of Jordan: Kastron Mefaa, followed by Philadelphia, Madaba, Esboutha, Belemounta, Arcopolis, and Charachmoba. Two more names of places, Limbon and Dhlaton, were added in two panels along with portraits of the donors.

The inner frame of the carpet depicts the River Nile with fish, birds, and water flowers, along with boats and boys fishing and hunting. Also included are depictions of ten cities in the Nile delta.

The word mosaic is derived from the Greek word for Muses, the habitual companions of Apollo. Originally the Muses seem to have been deities of the springs; afterwards they became goddesses of memory, and then of inspiration. Thus the technique of mosaic has always been associated with the highest forms of artistic expression.

The small cubes used to form the patterns in the mosaics are called "tesserae" a word derived from Greek, meaning "four-sided." These tesserae are usually of an inorganic material, such as marble, glass, shell, stone, and gold. Mosaics, have been used to cover enormous areas of buildings, as walls, floors, vaults, cupolas, etc. Wall mosaics are comparatively rare, since they readily suffer more destruction.

In Jordan, mosaics usually depicted every day life activities, pastoral and hunting themes, in addition to exploiting classical mythological topics, to convey the new Christian concepts.

Some of these representations did have symbolic meanings for the Christians: In the peacock symbolising eternal life; the grape harvest signifying the change and production of nature; the fish identified with the name of Christ and the rite of baptism; and human faces personifying the four seasons of the rivers of paradise: Tigris, Euphrates, Gihon, and Fison. The figures were represented frontally and almost grotesque in their proportions and harsh realism took place of the Hellenistic world idealism.



Married with Children — Saturday at 8:30

JTV Channel 2 Preview

Sat. — Jan. 23, 1988

8:30 Married with Children

A new comedy series. Peg and Al Bundy have loved each other in the worst way for years. This candid look at marriage, child rearing, the neighbors and Al's career in shoe selling and audiences roaring for this half-hour comedy.

9:00 Sat. Variety Show

10:20 Feature Film

Blues Brothers
The story of two graduates of Chicago chased by the police everywhere. An armed girl also and a neo-Nazi party chase them. Helicopters, armed forces and tanks take part in the chase. Finally, they are returned to jail.

Starring Tuesday Weld, Robert Hooks, Jeremy Brett

Sun. — Jan. 24, 1988

8:30 Farrington of The F.O.

That Old Black Magic
Harriet's surprise visitor from London causes the major to dabble in some dubious love potions supplied by Sanchez.

9:10 Doc. Omnibus

Hemingway
Last Part
The Last Round
After publishing the novella "The Old Man and The Sea," he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1954. But Hemingway's writing declined in his later years. His love-life was as turbulent and episodic as his sporting enthusiasms; he married four times.

10:20 Secret Army

Mon. — Jan. 25, 1988

8:30 Are You Being Served

9:10 Moonlighting

10:20 Feature Film

I want to go Home
Thomas and his wife were separated. He is the guardian of his children Tomy and Mary. Their mother persuades them to secretly go away with her. The three of them adopt new names. The children rejoin their father, and their mother is allowed by court to visit her children after being admonished by a judge.

Tue. — Jan. 26, 1988

8:30 King Martin

To many people, Martin Luther King was a Messiah. But to the majority of white Americans, he was the most dangerous man in the U.S. A gifted leader, a powerful speaker and a determined advocate of non-violence, he was at the head of a movement dedicated to winning justice and equality for the oppressed blacks in the land of the free. Here is hitherto unrevealed material about his relationship with his followers, with two American presidents, with radical black leader Michael X, and with the aggressively racist FBI chief Edgar Hoover.

Fri. — Jan. 29, 1988

8:30 Growing Pains

9:10 Magnum

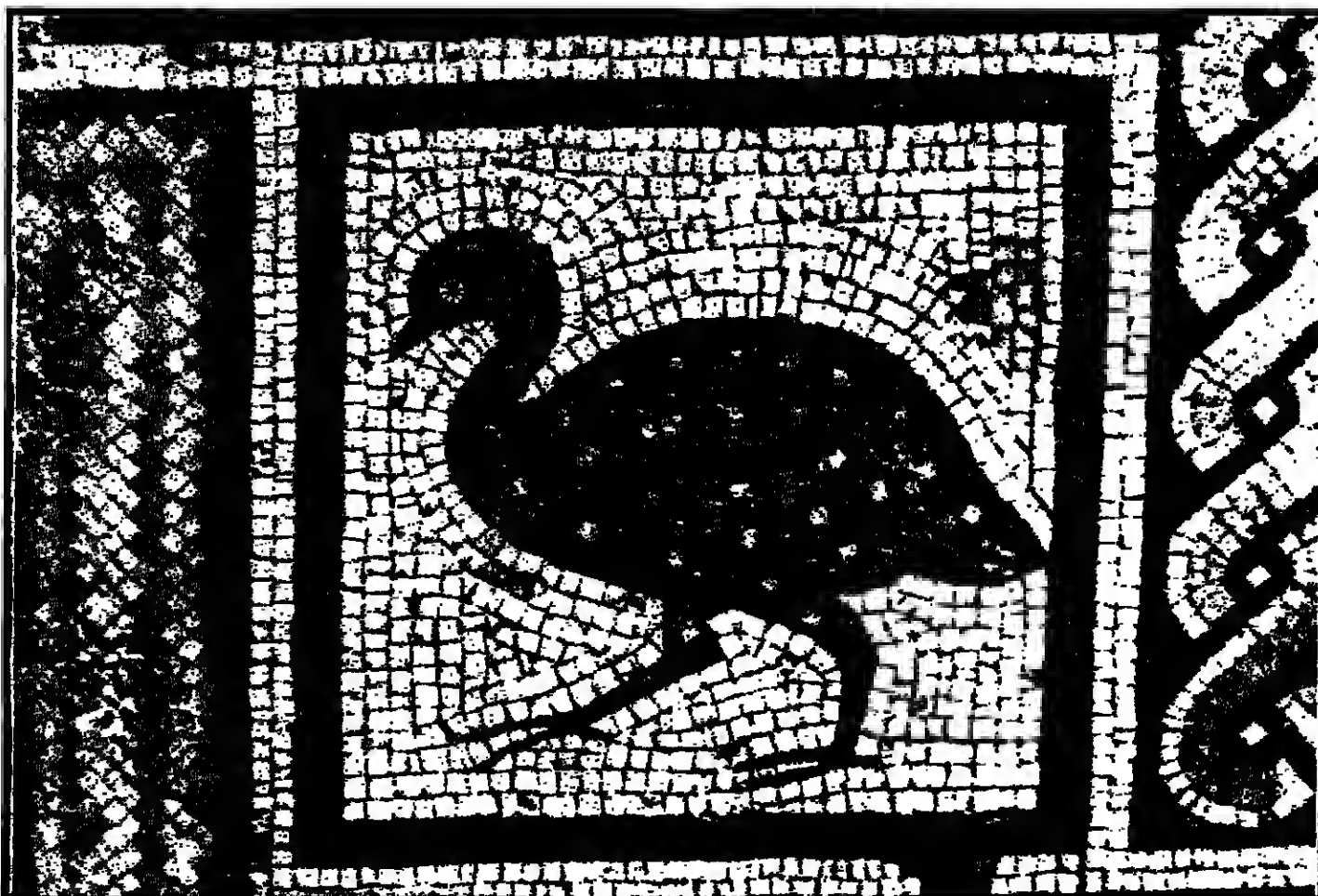
10:20 Falcon Crest



Church of Bishop Sergius in Umm Er-Rasas 586 A.D.



The city of Sebastiya, a mosaic found at the church of St. Stephen in Umm Er-Rasas, 785 A.D.



A middle of the sixth century A.D. mosaic found in the Chapel of Priest John in Khirbet Al Mukhayyat.



A mosaic from the 1st half of the 6th century at Ayoun Musa.



A fisherman of the middle sixth century found at the St. Lot and Procopius church in Khirbet Al Mukhayyat.

Graf to meet twice Australian Open winner in women's final

Cash cashes in on Lendl at home

MELBOURNE (R) — Wimbledon champion Pat Cash, the man they said could play only on grass, took great pleasure in proving his critics wrong Friday.

His five-set defeat of world number one Ivan Lendl in the semifinals of the Australian Open championships proved beyond doubt that the 22-year-old, ranked seventh in the world, has the talent to become one of the top players, whatever the surface.

In Sunday's final Cash now plays Sweden's Mats Wilander who beat compatriot Stefan Edberg in five sets, 6-0, 6-7, 6-3, 3-6, 6-1 in the other semifinal.

Lendl is rated the best hard-court player in the world. The Czechoslovak has won the last three U.S. Open and before this defeat had strung together 31 successive victories on hardcourt.

But Cash, cheered on by a fanatical home crowd, ultimately outplayed Lendl and won 6-4, 2-6, 6-2, 4-6, 6-2 by adapting the skills that had won him the Wimbledon title to the artificial rebound and surface of the National Tennis Centre.

"All these people keep telling me I can't play on hard courts. I wonder what they're feeling now," Cash said afterwards.

Lendl, devastated at the destruction of his Grand Slam dreams, agreed that Cash was developing into an all-rounder.

"If he can become consistent then he will be tough to beat on any surface but only time will tell," said Lendl, beaten by Cash in the Wimbledon final and in last year's Australian Open semifinals.

This year's semifinal had little pattern in the first four sets as first Cash, then Lendl, gained the upper hand, due mainly to the other's shortcomings.

But the fifth set was a classic.



Cash... on track

Lendl, given a code violation for racket abuse after serving a double fault in the third set, had four break points in the first game of the fifth but wasted them all as Cash set up camp at the net.

The Australian began to volley like a man inspired — rekindling memories of his Wimbledon exploits — and yelling "come on, then," at Lendl in gladiatorial fashion.

Lendl began to feel the pressure on the centre court and was no surprise when he was broken for 4-2. Cash served out for 5-2 and ended the match by breaking Lendl to love.

But Cash still has a major obstacle in his way as he bids for his second Grand Slam title.

Wilander, winner here in 1983 and 1984, has also developed his largely baseline game over the past six months to a point where



Graf... in quest for glory

the match eventually go to five sets.

Wilander continued to harry in the second but after swapping breaks of serve Edberg won a tiebreak 7-5.

Edberg's 11th foot fault of the match allowed Wilander to break for 2-0 in the final set and run away with the match as Edberg untypically began to lose his cool.

Lendl spoke with determination of his Grand Slam ambitions of the future after his open semifinal defeat by Cash Friday.

His 1988 dream may have been ruined, but the world number one was not to be distracted from his ultimate goal in tennis.

"You always eye the Grand Slam at the beginning of the year. It's your ultimate goal," he said after his three hours and 55 minutes struggle with Australian Cash ended in defeat.

"It was my goal last year. It was my goal this year. And it will be my goal 10 years from now. You have to give yourself the best chance you can. I felt I did that this year.

It's disappointing and frustrating to know you've put in all the work and failed. But I have had a lot of disappointments in the past and overcome them. I am sure I can do so again."

Women's circuit

Chris Evert, having disposed of Martina Navratilova, hopes to prove she can beat Steffi Graf for the women's singles title at the \$1.9 million Australian Open tennis tournament.

Evert gave a vintage performance Thursday in beating powerful Navratilova 6-2, 7-5 in a semifinal match. Graf, ranked No. 1 in the world and top-seeded in the first of the year's Grand Slam events, disposed of fellow West German Claudia Kohde-Kilsch 6-3, 6-2.

"Chris served well, got her first serves in, and returned well," Navratilova said of her long-time rival. "I made a whole bunch more unforced errors than her."

The loss left the Czech-born Navratilova with a 40-36 advantage over fellow American Evert.

"I wouldn't want to touch Chris now. She's so hot I'd burn," Navratilova joked.

Evert, 33, has a 6-4 record against Graf, but the 18-year-old West German has won their last four meetings in straight sets.

"I haven't found a way to beat her in recent matches, but everyone is beatable," Evert said. "I'm not fearful if I play the way I have in my last two matches — I'm excited."

The third-seeded Evert will be seeking her 19th Grand Slam title in Saturday's final.

Yugoslavia advances in Euro basketball tourney

LONDON (R) — Partizan Belgrade of Yugoslavia moved into a clear lead this week in the final pool of the Men's European Champions' Cup with an 85-77 home win over Maccabi Tel Aviv.

Partizan's trio of internationals dominated the scoring with Goran Grbic leading the way with 24 points. Zarko Paspalj scored 19 while 19-year-old Vlade Divac scored 12.

Partizan, the only unbeaten team at home, have won six games out of seven and are unbeaten in their last five since losing 93-83 in Italy against defending champions Tracer Milan on Dec. 3.

Aris Salonika moved into clear second place by beating Milan 120-95 in Greece on Thursday, led by 50 points from Europe's player of the year Nick Galis.

Milan, who also lost last week slipped to third ahead of Maccabi.

At the end of the 14-game series the top four from the pool of eight qualify for semifinals to be held in Ghent, Belgium on April 5 with the final two days later.

Cologne (West Germany) are fifth after defeating Den Bosch 126-97 in The Netherlands. Den Bosch have slipped since losing through injury their leading scorer Paul Thompson, the former professional with Milwaukee and Cleveland.

FC Barcelona, originally strong favourites for the final four, slumped to their fifth defeat, losing 95-83 to Orthez in France.

In the Women's Champions' Cup final pool leaders Dynamo Novosibirsk (Soviet Union) lost their first match in six with a 76-70 defeat against Sparta Prague.

This was the first win for the Czech club who had four international players returning after injury.

The completion of the group matches in the three other competitions decided the semifinal lineups.

In the men's Korac Cup, Red Star Belgrade (Yugoslavia) qualified with a 103-65 win over Estudiantes (Spain) and now play Real Madrid.

In the Men's Cup Winners' Cup, Leverkusen became the first West German club to reach the last four by defeating Kingston 79-75 in England and now play Badalona of Spain. In the other match Pesaro (Italy) play Limoges (France).

In the women's Ronchetti Cup Milan (Italy) play Leningrad (Soviet Union), while Dynamo Kiev (Soviet Union) have only to beat Priolo (Italy) in their postponed third series match, due to be played on January 26, to face VS Prague (Czechoslovakia) who finished in a three-way tie in their group but qualified by one point on aggregate.

Two spectators killed in final leg, raising overall toll to 7

Finn wins ill-fated rally

DAKAR (Agencies) — World champion Juha Kankkunen of Finland enjoyed one of his least satisfying triumphs Friday when he completed victory in the trouble-scattered Paris-Dakar Rally.

His victory was overshadowed not only by the tragic events which snarled the rally and claimed six lives, but also by the disqualification of fellow-Finn and defending champion Ari Vatanen earlier this week.

Italy's Eddy Orioli won the motorcycle category of the 22-day marathon, which takes men and machines on a gruelling test through the Sahara Desert, on a Honda.

Kankkunen and co-driver Juha Piironen accomplished the formality of victory in their Peugeot 205 after starting the final stage virtually assured of winning.

Vatanen disqualified

Vatanen, the defending champion and, at that time, the leader, was disqualified Monday having arrived late for the start after his Peugeot 405 was stolen from its overnight parking spot in the Malian capital of Bamako.

The car was recovered and Vatanen, more than two hours behind Kankkunen after losing a race lead of more than an hour, initially allowed to rejoin the 13,000-km marathon pending an appeal.

But the organisers finally im-

posed a ban on Thursday, preventing him from travelling with the rest of the convoy to the overnight stopping-point of Richard Toll on the Senegal-Mauritania border.

C'est la vie

Vatanen, reported by French radio to have walked away with tears in his eyes, said: "That's life."

Despite the message to Mege, the Paris-based International Motor Sport Federation (FISA), FIA's sports arm, issued a statement saying the FIA international appeal tribunal would be convened as soon as possible to judge the Peugeot affair.

Villain detained

The Paris organisers said a Frenchman suspected of stealing Vatanen's car had been detained by Mali police, though his identity had not been disclosed.

Peugeot received a ransom demand of 500,000 francs (\$90,000) on the day of the theft but it was not paid.

FISA said a working group would examine reports on the controversial rally and would propose, exceptional security measures to the FISA executive committee, which would meet on March 11.

The 10th edition of the rally has overshadowed by deaths and

controversy over safety and the disparity between the amateurs and the professional works teams with their enormous backup squads.

A Mauritanian woman and child were killed Thursday night during the penultimate stage of the rally, bringing to seven the number of people who have died during this year's race.

According to Marianne Fleury, spokesman for the medical team following the rally, the woman and child were killed 25 kilometres from the western Mauritanian village of Rosso. She said they apparently were hit by a car from Sierra Leone, a film crew documenting the rally.

The victims were pronounced dead by the medical team which arrived a few minutes after the accident. No other details were provided.

A spokesman for the race medical team earlier mistakenly said two journalists were killed in a car crash on the border between Mauritania and Senegal in the early evening.

Other victims of the 10th Paris-Dakar, that left the Paris suburbs of Versailles Jan. 1, include a 10-year-old girl struck and killed by a competing car in Mali, a mechanic who was run over while sleeping in a rally bivouac, Dutch co-pilot Kees van Leeuwen, French co-pilot Patrice Canado and French motocyclist Jean-Claude Huger.

Lefts, rights and fakes from fight week

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey (R) — Hype, humour and money have highlighted the week leading up to the heavyweight title fight between champion Mike Tyson and Larry Holmes Friday night.

Promoter Don King, known to exaggerate at times, says no tickets are left but still "they're coming in by fishboats from Taiwan and Indonesia." The Limos, the hotels the trains are all sold out.

The fight, which promises to be anything but pretty, was being held in the 17,000-seat Convention Hall, site of the Miss America Pageant.

Trump Plaza, co-producer of the fight, reportedly paid \$3.5 million to stage the Michael Spinks-Gerry Cooney fight last year on a Monday night. A hotel spokesman said gamblers spent \$7.2 million at the gaming tables that day, six times the normal "table drop" for a Monday.

New Jersey Boxing Commissioner Larry Hazzard says a cornerman cannot stop the Tyson-Holmes fight by throwing a towel into the ring. He says the referee has to be told. "If anyone throws a towel in the ring, the referee will throw it right out."

Holmes, stepping down from the stage after the weigh-in, saw an unruly crowd of reporters advancing towards him. "OK everybody take your time now."

Let's not fight. I gotta a fight tomorrow night."

Put two men in a ring for a heavyweight championship fight and anything can happen.

Tyson grew up believing that. He still does, with one exception: That if Mike Tyson is one of those men, Mike Tyson is going to win.

"I believe I am a good fighter and no one in the world can beat me," the youngest man ever to hold the heavyweight boxing championship said.

Tyson, 32-0 with 28 knockouts, will get a change to back up those words Friday night when he puts his undisputed heavyweight championship on the line in a 12-round fight against former champion Larry Holmes.

"People have different opinions, but I deal with fact," the 21-year-old Tyson said. "My stats are beating everyone in the top 10."

Holmes is not in the top 10. The 38-year-old Holmes is coming out of retirement in an attempt to

become the oldest man ever to win the heavyweight title — surpassing Jersey Joe Walcott, who won the title at 37 years.

Holmes, 48-2 with 34 knockouts, hasn't fought in the 21 months since losing a second controversial decision to Michael Spinks in an International Boxing Federation (IBF) title rematch.

Holmes got this shot at the title under a World Boxing Council (WBC) rule that allows "outstanding former champions" to seek a title fight, provided they can pass a stringent physical.

"They say my old legs will fade, but I'll beat Mike Tyson's butt before my old legs fade," Holmes said after arriving here Wednesday. "It's a 12-round fight. I can fight a good 10 rounds and I can hold for two. The question is, can I get it?"

The "it" is a decision. Holmes has defended the title he held for seven years in the first loss to Spinks, then again when they wouldn't give it back in the second fight.

Flyer lands in Australia with new record

DARWIN, Australia (AP) — Microflight pilot Brian Milton made aviation history Thursday on his arrival in Australia by flying 17,700 kilometres from Britain in 36 flying days.

It followed a journey that was slowed by unfavourable headwinds, being blown upside down on landing in Greece, an emergency landing in Jordan, ditching on Christmas day in the Gulf and an unscheduled landing in Malaysia.

Milton left Troughton Island in the Timor Sea earlier in the day to complete the second last leg of his journey without mishap. He

left Britain on Dec. 2.

In Greece, strong winds flipped the tiny aircraft and he crash-landed on an island, he ditched in the Gulf on Dec. 25 because of a fuel blockade and made another forced landing in a Malaysian rice paddy due to loose wire shorting the engine.

Milton said he would leave Darwin early Friday and fly to Sydney in time for next Tuesday's celebrations marking 200 years of European settlement.

The distance by air is 3,170 kilometres. The plane, which carries only nine hours' worth of fuel, has a top speed of 153 kph.

Golden future has faded for Olympic standout

NEW YORK (AP) — In 1976, Howard Davis Jr.'s future looked as golden as his Olympic medal.

Davis was one of five U.S. boxers to win gold medals at Montreal, and it was he, not Sugar Ray Leonard or Leon or Michael Spinks, who was named the outstanding boxer in the competition.

"Everything I do seems to come easy, natural like," said Davis upon turning pro under a contract with CBS-TV that reportedly was worth about \$1.5 million.

"Can't miss" was the label Davis wore into professional boxing. That label is faded and tattered.

On Thursday night, Howard Davis, who will be 32 on Feb. 14, will meet Ali Karim Mohammad in a 10-round club fight at Madison Square Garden's felt forum.

Twice he has failed in attempts to win a world championship, a feat accomplished by Leonard, the Spinks brothers and two other 1976 Olympians — gold medalist Leo Randolph and bronze medalist John Tate.

And Davis never has caught the public imagination like Leonard and the Spinkses did.

Yet the dream lives on for Davis, who in his last four fights had a 1-2-1 record. The losses were on decisions to Joe Louis, Manley and Hector Camacho, both former world champions, and the draw with Meldrick Taylor, a gold medalist at the 1984 Olympics.

"Hopefully, by the end of this year I could have a title," said Davis, who now campaigns as a junior welterweight. "I'm going to give it my all."

There were times that the dream seemed a nightmare and he wanted to quit.

"That question has been asked of me so many times," Davis said wearily when asked about his failure to reach the top of his profession.

"Management, my father, myself."

Davis said his father, who trained him, couldn't get along

with co-managers Mike Jones and Dennis Rappaport, who for a time co-managed heavyweight Gerry Cooney. Davis split with Jones and Rappaport, not amicably. He then was managed for a while by Ed Gerst and for a time was advised by a divorce lawyer.

Now he's back with Jones. Of his father, he said, "he's one of the best trainers out there. I love him dearly." But he is now trained by Craig Gibson.

Davis won his first 12 fights, many of them on national television, but without the fanfare that accompanied Leonard's rise to the welterweight championship in 1979.

Davis got a shot at the World Boxing Council (WBC) lightweight title June 7, 1980, and lost a 15-round unanimous decision to Scotsman Jim Watt. He then ran off 11 straight victories and earned another shot at the WBC title in a 12-round bout against Edwin Rosario of Puerto Rico on June 23, 1984, in Puerto Rico.

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Jordan earns JD 105.3m from exports to Iraq

BAGHDAD (J.T.) — The Iraqi trade ministry announced Friday that Jordan's exports to Iraq in the past year amounted to JD 105.3 million worth of products against a total of \$208.5 million worth of Iraqi products exported to Jordan.

Jordan and Iraq recently agreed to increase the overall volume of trade between them to \$900 million in 1988 and to take measures to remove obstacles hindering the smooth flow of national products from the two countries in both directions.

The agreement came during meetings of the joint Jordanian-Iraqi Higher Committee which met in Amman in December.

Jordan exports to Iraq chemical concentrates, table eggs, pharmaceutical products, chemical detergents, woolen and cotton cloth, ball point pens and plastic products.

During this year, according to economic sources in Amman, Jordan will also export to Iraq agricultural plastic covers and greenhouses, electrical appliances, sanitary equipment, metal pipes, heaters, cigarettes, pesticides, rock wool, alcoholic drinks and insulation material.

Exports to Arab Common Market amount to JD 7.4m

According to a statistical bulletin issued by the Central Bank of Jordan, Jordan's total exports to countries of the Arab Common Market amounted to JD 7.401 million in the first eight months of last year.

The bulletin said that the figure represents an increase of JD 3.285 million over Jordan's total exports to these countries in the same period of 1986.

It said that the Jordanian exports included among other things tobacco, petrochemical products, transport equipment, and other various manufactured products.

Ministry lowers olive oil price

AMMAN (J.T.) — Olive oil produced in Jordan's East and West Banks will be sold at JD 24 for every 18-kilogramme container, in accordance with instructions issued by the Ministry of Supply.

Minister of Supply Hamdi Al Tabbaa said that the new rate is JD 2 less than the previous rate for the same amount.

The minister said that unlimited amounts of locally produced oil can be bought from the ministry warehouses and from the Civil Service Consumer Corporation.

Iran-Iraq war boosts business at Dubai's port

DUBAI (R) — Freight traffic at Dubai's Port Rashid rose by almost 40 per cent last year, turning it into one of the world's 30 busiest ports, largely as a result of the Iran-Iraq shipping war, officials said Thursday.

Most of the increase came from transshipment business to ports in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

Cargo handled at Port Rashid rose from 3.147 million tonnes in 1986 to 4.252 million tonnes last year, the officials said. At least two-thirds of the goods brought

in by large container vessels and freighters were reexported in smaller ships.

The figures excluded oil traffic which fell from 1.358 to 1.075 million tonnes and also did not include large amounts of goods leaving Port Rashid by wooden dhows for Iran.

"Iran can't take large cargo-carrying vessels because its ports have been badly bombed and their equipment damaged," one official said.

Jordan obtains Swedish loan, Italian grant

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Swedish bank Gotabanken will administer the spending of a Swedish loan amounting to JD 2.3 million on consultancy services for the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC), according to an agreement signed by the two sides here Thursday.

Under the agreement, Gotabanken will also supervise the implementation of some TCC projects which will be carried out from now and until 1992 with the help of the Swedish interest-free loan.

The agreement was signed by Transport and Telecommunications Minister Khaled Al Haj Hassan and Gotabanken's board chairman Josta Lundin.

The minister expressed Jordan's appreciation to the Swedish government for granting the loan to Jordan to help it carry out projects and said the loan reflects the strong ties between the two countries.

The loan, the minister said, will enable the TCC to provide better services to the public.

The minister later signed an agreement providing for the Consult of Rome, an Italian consultancy firm, to conduct consultancy services, market research study and engineering work related to the expansion of Jordan's telephone networks in cooperation with the TCC.

Consult of Rome will help establish data network for domestic and international telecommunications services in the Kingdom and will also supervise the installation and commissioning of the project after providing the equipment to be employed in the project.

The cost of the consultancy services will be paid through a JD 528,000 grant from the Italian government, according to the agreement signed by Italian Ambassador to Jordan Luigi Amaduzzi in the presence of the TCC director general.

Italian embassy sources told the Jordan Times that 18 months are needed for the completion of the consultancy and survey work while 12 more months will be required for commissioning.

Following the completion of the consultancy work, the sources said, Consult of Rome and the TCC will conduct a market research and select Italian companies which would carry out the project.

Arab Potash approves budget

AMMAN (J.T.) — The board of directors of the Arab Potash Company (APC) has endorsed a fiscal budget for 1988 and approved the final accounts statement for the company's operations in the past year.

The APC's board comprises 15 members, eight of whom are appointed by the government which owns 53 per cent of the total company's shares, and the rest represent other shareholders from various Arab countries and institutions.

APC earlier this month announced that it produced 1.203 million tonnes of potash from the Dead Sea in the past year, thus exceeding the 1.2 million tonne mark fixed by the company's management at the outset of 1987.

APC Director General Ali Nsour announced that all the company's production between 1983 and 1987 has been marketed abroad.

The pan-Arab company, which incurred losses in the past, recently embarked on an investment programme aimed at increasing output and promoting marketing.

Last month, APC announced that it would export 200,000 tonnes of potash to China during the first six months of 1988.

The consignment would be sold at a price 15 per cent higher than that paid for shipments made in the past year, according to APC sources.

China imported a total of 300,000 tonnes of Jordanian potash in 1987, the sources said.

Private analysis upgrades rating of Jordanian bank

NICOSIA (AP) — A private banking analysis service on Friday reported an upward trend in ratings for banks in Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, and gave six Middle East Arab banks, including Arab Bank Ltd. of Jordan, its highest ratings.

The Cyprus-based Capital Intelligence, which specialises in Middle East banks, said in a statement telefaxed to the Associated Press in Nicosia that nearly all the banks in oil-rich Kuwait have been upgraded.

"This is due to the central bank's comprehensive settlement programme which has buttressed all the aspects of the banks' financial conditions, (and) deposits have been formally guaranteed by the state," it said.

Capital Intelligence said in Saudi Arabia "the banking market has passed its nadir and the local business environment is less hostile, resulting in upgrades for most banks."

The private banking analysis service also reported an upward grading in Bahrain.

In the United Arab Emirates (UAE), ratings of recently merged banks in Abu Dhabi and Dubai have improved as a result of their increased capital and funding injections, while the banks are successfully developing new business, said the service.

It gave six Arab banks its highest ratings of AA. They are: — Gulf International Bank in Bahrain — The National Bank of Bahrain BSC — Arab Bank Ltd. in Jordan — National Bank of Kuwait — Saudi Arabia's Islamic Development Bank — National Bank of Dubai Ltd. in the UAE.

Taiwan also will increase its technological and educational work in Saudi Arabia, especially in agriculture in which it already provides advisers and researchers, Ahal Khalil said.

Taiwanese advisers are looking into the establishment of an agricultural technical school in Saudi Arabia.

Long-standing economic ties bind Taiwan and Saudi Arabia, which has no diplomatic relations with communist China or the Soviet Union.

IMF to modify financing deals

SINGAPORE (R) — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) will liberalise the terms of its loans to help debt-ridden developing countries, Managing Director Michel Camdessus said Friday.

The IMF had "embarked on a major initiative to adopt new financing mechanisms" that took into account difficulties faced by the fund's 62 poorest countries, Camdessus told a news conference.

Camdessus said: "Difficulties of our members are a very good reason for us to try to adapt our instruments."

The 151-member IMF lends money to members to help them correct balance-of-payments deficits. There have been complaints the fund's repayment period is too short and conditions stipulated for its loans are harsh for countries experiencing trade and budget deficits.

Camdessus said the fund's conventional stand-by lending arrangements allowed a debtor country to repay the loan within one to 1 1/2 years.

He said the IMF was considering extending this to three or four years.

"We have to do what we are asking our member countries to do, namely, to adjust to a new international setting," he said. "What I am asking the executive board is to adjust to a new international setting."

The fund had to take note of problems faced by poor and debtor countries due to current depressed prices of raw materials, a shortfall in the rate of growth in industrialised countries and growing protectionist pressures that hit their exports, he said.

Meanwhile, bankers say they are selling their Third World loans at ever-lower prices and in increasing amounts.

And, with most expecting to set aside even larger reserves



Michel Camdessus

entire sum they lent must be repaid.

They can allow banks to sell off the loans without having to record a loss, said Philip Harvey, deputy general manager at Libra Bank, a London-based bank specialising in Latin America.

Banker selling has pushed the price of Mexican debt down to 45 cents on the dollar from 60 cents since May 1987, while Argentinean debt now sells for 30 cents on the dollar, down from 58 to 60 cents.

"Now, since the new year, we've seen more and more banks making loss provisions. That should prompt banks to start selling loans again and depress prices," Harvey said.

For those regional U.S. banks, led by the Bank of Boston, which have started to write off Third World debt, basically accounting for them as being valueless, any loan sales could actually produce a profit.

That could speed up selling even more.

The volume of loans sold is not high but bankers say it does not take a very heavy volume to move prices in the thinly traded market. Only about one per cent of the \$1,000 billion owed by the Third World has changed hands in the latest selling spree, they said.

Egypt to cut power from dam

KHARTOUM (R) — Egypt will cut electrical power from the drought-hit Aswan High Dam, leaving villagers along the Nile hit by power cuts, officials said.

Essam Radi, minister of public works and water resources, told Reuters hydro-electric power generated at Aswan would be reduced 10 per cent from March but only rural areas would be affected.

Radi and irrigation ministers

from Sudan, Uganda and Zaïre agreed on Thursday to cooperate in using and developing water resources in the Nile basin.

In a communique signed after three days of meetings in Khartoum, they resolved to revive a survey of the equatorial lakes and cooperate to develop Lake Mobutu Sese Seko (Albert).

Radi said the water level in Lake Nasser, created by the dam in 1971, now stood at 157.8 metres above sea level, 10.8 metres above the average low level.

He said the problem was likely to worsen by the end of the dry

season in July, with the level expected to fall to 150 metres.

If the level falls to 147 metres the electrical turbines should be shut down.

Radi said the reduced generating capacity would help Egypt save water from the dam. He said the effects on the public would be slight because Aswan supplied only 22 per cent of its country's power needs.

Egyptian experts have said that if the current drought in the Nile's catchment areas continues beyond August next year, the effect on irrigation will be serious.

France to lend Syria \$36m

DAMASCUS (R) — France is marking improved relations with Syria with a 200 million franc (\$35.7 million) loan for development projects.

French embassy officials told Reuters the low-interest loan was agreed during a visit here by Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond in October. They said it reflected warmer relations.

Raimond's trip ended a 10-month suspension of high-level contacts between Syria and members of the European Community (EC), after Britain accused

Damascus of involvement in a plot to bomb an Israeli airliner on a flight from London.

The EC also froze economic aid. But the embassy officials said individual countries were free to give assistance.

West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher visited Syria last week. He told reporters before leaving that he would brief EC colleagues on his talks.

Asked if he would press for sanctions to be lifted, he said Community decisions were sometimes decided.

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 1988

YOUR HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Wright Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Despite some confusion in the early part of the day, you will have an excellent opportunity to get the backing you need from some influential persons. Be sure to avoid any arguments this evening.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Try to put more excitement into your daily duties, and you'll enjoy them more. You and your mate must try to get out of that rut.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Try to impress the one you love by showing that you are modern and exciting. Avoid making any romantic promises you may regret later.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Make arrangements to get together with a recent acquaintance for some recreation today. If you must do some marketing, do it early.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Discuss with an expert how you can add to your present abundance, and get good advice. Steer clear of a greedy associate.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 23) Plan a trip with a friend to gather some important information you need. Take it easy and get plenty of rest tonight after such a busy day.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 to Sept. 23) You may want to invest in some modern

mechanisms to make your work more efficient and profitable, but get the advice of an expert.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 to Oct. 23) Contact a clever acquaintance who can show you how to capitalize on your finest talent. Get out of that rut you've been in for so long.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 to Nov. 21) Get your home in order so that you can entertain guests with confidence this evening. If you go out, drive very carefully.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) A very new and unusual form of recreation will please you very much if you keep an open mind. Take your mate on a short trip.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You may have to spend a bit more money than you had planned to please your family, but, in the long run it will be well worth the cost.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Make it a point to see someone you have recently met, and to whom you have taken a fancy. This should be a most pleasurable evening.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You have some fine ideas which seem to be promising, but you must put these into motion if you are going to profit at all by them.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Shares moved to the day's highs in moderate afternoon business as investors built on the early gains, buying shares for the new account, dealers said. At 1538 GMT Friday the FTSE 100 share index was up 30.4 points to the day's high of 1,777.6, buoyed up by buyers emerged to deal for the new account period, which starts on Monday. Shares initially rose Friday on a reassessment of Thursday's higher than expected U.K. December bank lending data which dealers said on second thoughts were not as inflationary as first believed. Wall Street's rise Friday after Thursday's fall and recovery also underpinned Friday's highs, dealers said. "Although the (bank lending) figure was much higher than expected and initially sparked worries of higher inflation, it was to large extent offset by the smaller than expected rise in Mo," one dealer said. Mo is the U.K.'s measure of fluctuations in the supply of British notes and coins. Mo showed a year on year rise of 4.2 per cent in December, easily within the U.K.'s two to six per cent target range. Further consideration of the Mo figures helped U.K. money rates ease Friday.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One Sterling	1.7845/55	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2790/2800	Canadian dollar
	1.6695/6705	Deutsche marks
	1.8746/56	Dutch guilders
	1.3515/25	Swiss francs
	34.85/88	Belgian francs
	5.6260/90	French francs
	122.61/228	Italian lire
	127.40/50	Japanese yen
	5.9880/6.0030	Swedish crowns
	6.3520/70	Norwegian crowns
	6.4120/70	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	477.70/478.20	U.S. dollars

Peanuts



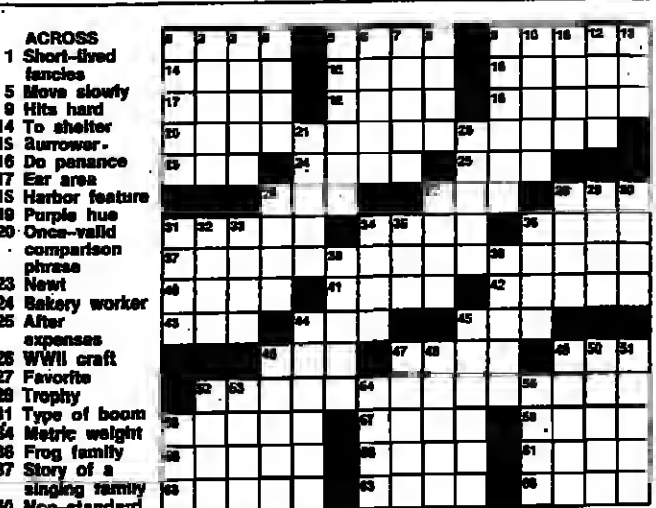
Mutt'n' Jeff



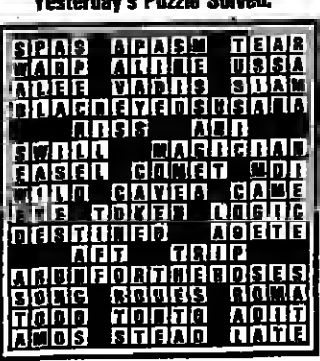
Andy Capp



THE Daily Crossword by Frank R. Jackson



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

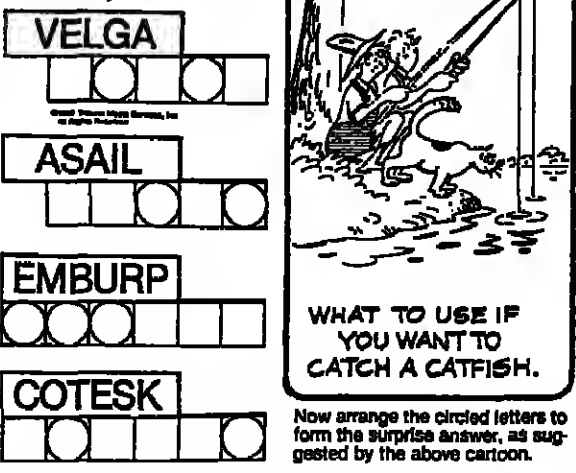


THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Answer here: A VELGA AS EMBURP COTESK

Yesterday's Jumbles: CLOVE FOAMY WHALER HERALD

Answer: That know-it-all has the solution to every problem right in this... THE HOLLOW OF HIS HEAD

Reagan lowers bid for contra aid funding after peace talks

WASHINGTON (R) — In an apparent bid to win over a reluctant Congress, President Reagan is to seek the least possible military aid for contra rebels fighting the Nicaraguan Sandinista government, the White House says.

The Sandinistas have lifted a state of emergency, promised an amnesty for an estimated 3,000 political prisoners and despatched senior officials to Costa Rica for direct talks with the contras.

"We will be tailoring our request to maintain the contras as a viable force with as much humanitarian aid as possible and as little lethal aid as possible," spokesman Martin Fitzwater told reporters Thursday.

Reagan, who was due to make another speech on the issue, is expected to send a request for new contra aid to Congress next week amid diplomatic moves to bring peace to Central America.

Reagan, suspicious of the real

intentions of Managua's Sandinista government, has launched an intense campaign for congressional approval of the aid.

He argues that only a contra force in the field will oblige Nicaragua to make good on the promises it made in signing the Guatemala peace accord last August, which calls for ceasefire talks, amnesties for political prisoners and a range of democratic reforms.

But Reagan has not yet said how much money he will ask for aid to the contras, and Fitzwater gave mixed signals.

First, Fitzwater told a group of reporters the figure would be less than \$50 million to cover about

five months. Later, however, he said at his daily press briefing that no final figure had been set. Numbers higher and lower than \$50 million were under discussion, Fitzwater said.

One major factor is that if Reagan asked for a relatively small sum and the Democratic-led Congress approved it in votes scheduled for Feb. 2-3, he will be able to ask for more during the current financial year ending in September.

If he loses the votes, that will be the end of the matter. The Reagan administration has also said Sandinista actions following a Central American summit in Costa Rica last week at which Managua made significant concessions on the peace process, will be an important factor.

Meanwhile forty U.S. mayors, all Democrats, called Thursday for an end to American aid to

Nicaragua's contra rebels and support for a peace plan signed last August by presidents of five Central American countries.

"We believe the Congress should fund the cities, not the contras," Berkeley, California Mayor Loni Hancock told reporters in releasing the national mayors' initiative for peace in Central America at the annual meeting in Washington of the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

More than 300 mayors were asked to sign the initiative. Hancock said the 40 who signed represented a broad cross-section of every type of urban area and reflected what she said was 70 per cent opposition to contra aid among the American public.

Hancock said a delegation of the signatories would meet House of Representatives Speaker Jim Wright to explain their stand and hoped to meet President Reagan during their two-day conference.

Group of six urges U.N. to monitor nuclear test ban

STOCKHOLM (R) — Leaders of a six-nation disarmament initiative have called on the superpowers to stop nuclear testing and proposed that the United Nations should monitor a test ban.

The leaders from Sweden, India, Argentina, Greece, Mexico and Tanzania made the proposal Thursday after signing a declaration calling on the U.S. and the Soviet Union to destroy half their strategic nuclear arsenals.

"The United Nations as a body, could guarantee a fair verification system," said Swedish Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson, host of the two-day meeting of the six.

The declaration also called for a ban on anti-satellite weapons, such as those being developed in the U.S. "Star Wars" project, known as the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI).

"The nuclear arms race must be halted - Now. Nuclear testing must stop - Now. Strategic arms must be reduced - Now. An arms race in space must be prevented - Now," Carlsson said.

The other five leaders are Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, Greek Prime Minister Andreas

Papandreu, Tanzanian Ex-President Julius Nyerere, Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo and Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid.

The six said they would write to world leaders requesting a special U.N. session this summer to discuss the test ban.

A group of experts from the six countries will also soon convene in Sweden to take stock of efforts to develop the most efficient way of verifying a test ban, Carlsson said.

The six were due to discuss their ideas with other international peace activists in Stockholm for the occasion, including former Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau and George Arbatov, head of the Soviet U.S.-Canada Institute.

The meeting saw the tightest security in Stockholm since the funeral in February 1986 of Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme shot on a Stockholm street. His killer was never found.

During their summit, the six leaders also paid tribute to Palme in a wreath-laying ceremony at his grave where his widow, Lisbeth Palme, read their joint declaration.

Kampuchea talks end with new Hanoi pullout plan

SAINT-GERMAIN-EN-LAYE, France (R) — Peace talks between warring Kampuchean rivals have ended on a positive note with Prime Minister Hun Sen making a new offer on a Vietnamese troop withdrawal to exiled Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

The two sides, engaged in a nine-year war, concluded the second day of a second round of peace talks, saying discord remained, but that progress had been made and the peace process will continue.

Hun Sen, the youthful head of Phnom Penh's Vietnam-backed government, emerged from a longer-than-expected talk of nearly five hours with Sihanouk, saying: "We have made a great step forward, in particular by discussing concrete problems."

"Points of disagreement remain but they will be debated again," he said. The two are due to reconvene for talks in Pyongyang, North Korea, in April, and hold further meetings in France and in New Delhi.

Hun Sen said he had made a concession to Sihanouk, the titular head of a U.N.-recognised government-in-exile, by offering a two-year, three-phase withdrawal of the more than 100,000 Vietnamese troops stationed in Kampuchea.

Hanoi was willing to begin the pullout as soon as Hun Sen and Sihanouk reached a political settlement to end the Kampuchean conflict, he said.

U.S. Republicans seem to opt for Bush or Dole

WASHINGTON (R) — With the start of the U.S. presidential race barely two weeks away, the Democratic Party field is wide open but Republicans seem certain to opt for either Vice-President George Bush or Sen. Robert Dole.

Two new opinion polls of Republican voters released Thursday showed Dole and Bush maintaining big respective leads in Iowa and New Hampshire — the states that kick off the four-month nomination process.

The surveys by the Los Angeles Times and NBC news showed Democratic Party faithful still unable to produce a candidate who can combine a clear lead with public recognition on the scale enjoyed by Bush and Dole.

Iowa launches the process of selecting delegates to presidential nominating conventions with a series of statewide party votes known as caucuses on Feb. 8. New Hampshire holds the season's first primary balloting on Feb. 16.

Republican strategists hope that U.S. economic prosperity and the Democrats' disarray will lead their party to the presidency for a third four-year term, something they have not achieved since Herbert Hoover's victory in 1928.

Democratic planners say it is impossible to predict who will be their front-runner after the Iowa and New Hampshire voting. One candidate who drew fresh

hope from the new polls was Congressman Richard Gephardt of Missouri, who has struggled to establish an identity distinct from his six rivals.

Gephardt, 47 next week, was placed first among Iowa Democrats by both the new polls and NBC said he had almost doubled his strength since his last state polls in November.

But Gephardt's margin was whisker-thin. The Los Angeles Times put his support at 23 per cent, compared with 21 per cent for Illinois Senator Paul Simon, while NBC put it at 19 per cent against 18 per cent for Governor Michael Dukakis of Massachusetts.

Gephardt has angled his campaign message on the hardships of American farmers, hundreds of thousands of whom, especially in midwestern states such as Iowa, have fallen on hard times since President Reagan took office in January 1981.

Former Senator Gary Hart, who re-entered the race last month, came fourth in both Iowa polls. Even some Democratic analysts think Hart is unelectable because of the public exposure last year of his alliance with model Donna Rice.

Hart's problems were compounded this week by newspaper probing of his financial links in his 1984 and 1988 campaigns to Hollywood producer Stuart Karl, who made money out of Jane Fonda, workout and Playboy video films.

Bomb kills 3 at 'Frontier Gandhi' funeral

JALALABAD, Afghanistan (R) — A car bomb blast killed two Afghan children and one man, and injured 40 Pakistani bus passengers during the funeral ceremony of anti-Colonialist campaigner Abdul Ghaffar Khan on Friday, Afghan officials said.

The officials refused to take reporters to the scene but said it occurred in a car park for buses which had brought Pakistani mourners across from Peshawar for the ceremony.

"The bomb was concealed on board one of the cars from Pakistan," said one official without giving any source for the allegation.

Thousands of Afghans lined the highway as the body of Abdul Ghaffar Khan, who joined Mahatma Gandhi in the struggle for Indian independence, was taken to its final resting place Friday.

When the entourage reached Jalalabad, 70 kilometres from the border, Afghan leader Najib joined the mourners. A military truck towed Ghaffar Khan's coffin through Jalalabad to the garden of the two-storey cement bungalow where he once lived.

Najib walked behind the coffin with Ghaffar Khan's younger son, Abdul Wali Khan, while the

older son, Abdul Ghani Khan, rode in a wheelchair. After Ghaffar Khan was buried to a 21-gun salute, Najib praised him as "the Afghan pride" and recounted how the man known as "the Frontier Gandhi" had allied himself with Najib and his Soviet-backed government.

"We are proud that Ghaffar Khan had chosen his eternal grave to be in Jalalabad," Najib said. He quoted Ghaffar Khan as having said, "Bury me in the free land, in a place where the call for peace and brotherhood has risen — that is, in Jalalabad, in the soil of Afghanistan."

Saragossa seeks removal of U.S. base

SARAGOSSA, Spain (R) — The city council in Saragossa, northern Spain, has asked the government to negotiate the removal of a U.S. airbase from near their city.

"It is far too near (10 kilometres or six miles from the city) and it is far too noisy," a council spokesman told Reuters. The Socialist-led council passed two separate motions calling on the government to negotiate the removal of the base, which with its good weather and vast shooting range is used mainly as a training centre for planes based in northern Europe.

The motions, both passed by a majority, followed an agreement last week by the United States that it would remove 72 F-16 fighter bombers from its base at Torrejon near Madrid, clearing the way for a new bilateral defence pact.

Spain had said it would not negotiate a new pact when the current one runs out in May unless the F-16's were withdrawn. The agreement provided for few changes at the three other U.S. military bases in Spain — Saragossa and Moron airbases and Rota Naval Base — apart from a commitment to remove five refuelling planes from Saragossa.

"We had been expecting we would not get the same treatment as Torrejon but even so there is some disappointment," the city council spokesman said, adding this was the third time the council had voted for the removal of the base since it was set up in the mid-1950's.

Under the current defence agreement, up to 1,400 U.S. troops can be stationed at Saragossa.

Italy would consider accepting the 72 American F-16 fighter-bombers after they are withdrawn from Spain in order to avoid them being pulled out of Europe altogether, Italian sources said Thursday.

The decision on the future of the nuclear-capable aircraft would rest with NATO but the government "in principle is not against discussing their transfer to Italy," a senior government source said.

Prime Minister Giovanni Goria met ministers Wednesday to discuss the F-16s.

In a statement released after the meeting the government said it was important the aircraft remained in Europe pending an East-West agreement to reduce convention forces.

U.S. cuts new helicopter programme in half

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. Army will cut its planned \$60 billion LHX light helicopter development programme in half to save money, the Pentagon has announced.

The Defence Department said the army now plans to build about 2,000 attack and armed-reconnaissance versions of the helicopter beginning in the mid-1990s and to at least temporarily abandon plans for 2,000 troop-carrying models.

The light helicopter experimental (LHX) programme involves competition by four major defence firms, although no decision has been made on who will develop it. The four are Boeing, United Technologies, McDonnell Douglas, and Textron.

Deputy Defence Secretary William Taft gave the order for the army cutback Wednesday, the Pentagon said.

The Defence Department has been ordered to slash \$33 billion from its fiscal 1989 budget, which begins next Oct. 1, and the army will take some \$10 billion of that loss. The air force, army and Marines are expected to make

personnel cutbacks and the navy will also give up ships.

Army spokesman Phil Soucy told Reuters Thursday that the army had managed to get approval for the attack and reconnaissance version of the LHX and is expected to eventually spend an estimated \$30 billion on the programme.

Soucy said the army had originally planned to ask for about \$500 million in LHX funding in the 1989 budget, which President Reagan will send to Congress next month. That figure is now expected to range between \$100 million and \$250 million, Soucy said.

The attack helicopter will replace Vietnam war era AH-1 "Cobra" helicopter gunships and the reconnaissance version would replace the ageing OH-58 "Kiowa," Soucy said.

Trident-2 fails

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (R) — An unarmed Trident-2 nuclear missile veered off course during a test flight over the Atlantic and had to be destroyed, U.S. defence officials have said.

COLUMNS 7&8

Felix the cat sent home

LONDON (R) — Felix the cat sniffed at champagne and caviar when given a VIP send-off at London airport. The cat was returning home to California after recuperating from almost a month circling the globe "lost" in the cargo hold of a Pan Am airliner. The two-year-old cat was found on New Year's Day after logging some 290,000 kilometres on 64 flights in the cargo hold. It is believed to have survived the 29-day ordeal living only on condensed water after escaping from its basket on a flight from Frankfurt to Los Angeles. Since its rescue it has spent the last few weeks recovering in a London quarantine centre. Felix took the flight home to Los Angeles finally secured in a pet basket in the first-class compartment of a Jumbo Jet after being offered caviar and champagne and having her picture taken by scores of press photographers.

Garbage barge sinks in river

NEW YORK (R) — A garbage barge has sunk in New York's East River, sending tonnes of rubbish floating downstream and forcing officials to warn planes they could be endangered by seagulls drawn to the refuse. A Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) spokesman said the aircraft warning was withdrawn when only hundreds instead of the expected concentration of thousands of seagulls showed up. New York's main domestic airport, Laguardia, is near the river and gulls often pose a danger to aircraft. Officials said the barge, carrying 700 tonnes of garbage, was one of four being towed in the river in heavy fog. It collided with another barge and sank. Most of its cargo of garbage was contained but thousands of pounds escaped down the river. A city Sanitation Department spokesman said there were no injuries in the collision and no danger of pollution. The barge was carrying ordinary household garbage.

Man sprays mace on subway passengers

NEW YORK (R) — An unidentified man has sprayed a toxic substance believed to be mace in the faces of at least 20 commuters at a busy underground railway station, temporarily blinding several of them. The incident happened at the busy Lexington Avenue and 59th Street station underneath the posh Bloomingdale's department store during the evening rush hour, police said. Between 20 and 25 people were injured, police said, but officers did not know what the substance was, although it appeared to be a mace-like compound. The unidentified assailant has not been apprehended, officers said. Photographers trying to take pictures were pushed away by police because the victims' eyes hurt too much by the flash of the cameras. The subway station, always busy at rush hour, was jammed with police, emergency personnel, victims and passengers arriving at the station to catch connecting trains.

Man seized for charging at Fergie

NEW YORK (R) — A man brandishing a flag of the Irish Republican Army (IRA) was arrested by federal agents after he charged at the Duchess of York as she left a New York hotel, police have said. The duchess, who was in the city for a gala performance of Phantom of the Opera at a Broadway theatre, was unharmed in the incident, a New York police spokesman said. The arrested man, named as Michael Shanley, 22, of New York, was charged with attempted assault of the duchess, the former Sarah Ferguson, and of federal officers. The spokesman said. He said Shanley was subdued by federal agent Anthony Cardone before he was able to attack the duchess. The spokesman said the incident occurred at about 11 p.m. New York time (0400 GMT) as the duchess was leaving the Waldorf Astoria Hotel. Earlier, a small crowd of IRA supporters demonstrated across the street from a Broadway theatre where the duchess was to attend the performance. They filed past the theatre and left the scene before she arrived.

McCartney no-show sours rock dinner

NEW YORK (R) — The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame has gained five new members in a ceremony soured by Paul McCartney snubbing other former Beatles. McCartney was not the only no-show: The Rolling Stones' Keith Richards stayed away and Diana Ross shunned her ex-partner in the Supremes. The Beatles, Bob Dylan, the Beach Boys, the Supremes and the Drifters were inducted into the Hall of Fame at a black-tie dinner to honour the roots of rock 'n' roll. But the evening was notable more for who was not there than the dozens of rock music stars like Bruce Springsteen, Billy Joel, Jeff Beck, Little Richard and Joan Baez who were present. McCartney cited long-standing business differences for his refusal to attend what would have been a reunion of the surviving Beatles. "I was keen to go and pick up my award, but after 20 years the Beatles still have some business differences which I had hoped would have been settled by now," the British musician said in a statement. "Unfortunately they haven't been, so I would feel like a complete hypocrite waving and smiling with them at a fake reunion." Ringo Starr, George Harrison and John Lennon's widow Yoko Ono were on hand at the Waldorf Astoria to receive the Beatles' honour from Rolling Stones singer Mick Jagger.

Farmer harvests diamonds

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone (AP) — A farmer planting potatoes in the eastern Kono district, dug up one of the largest diamonds ever found in this mineral-rich country, the government Gold and Diamond Office has reported. The farmer, who was not identified, found the 307-carat gem last Friday while digging up what he thought was a stone in his potato patch. The farmer and a friend broke the stone into three pieces following an argument over whether it was really a diamond or not. Officials of the National Diamond Mining Corporation (NDMC) confirmed the stone was a diamond. The pieces were deposited in the vault of the Central Bank in the capital, Freetown, while government officials tried to sort out conflicting ownership claims. The NDMC said the stone belonged to them since it was found on their leased property. The farmer and a third party, a group calling itself "supporters" of the farmer, both claimed they were the rightful owners. Diamond valuers from the government Gold and Diamond Office had not put a monetary value on the three pieces. The largest diamond ever produced in the country was the 969-carat Star of Sierra Leone, found in 1971.

Sean Penn hits suspected prowler

LOS ANGELES (R) — Actor Sean Penn, who spent 33 days in jail after biting a film extra, struck a suspected prowler with a bottle of salad dressing at the home he shares with singer Madonna, police have said. The incident occurred when Penn and Madonna, returning from a shopping trip, spotted five people in the area of their estate in the posh beach colony of Malibu, police spokesman Richard Dinsmoor said. Penn, 26, whose films include Bad Boys and Fast Times at Ridgemont High, said one of the suspected prowlers, Richard Barcelo, tried to punch him. Dinsmoor reported, "Penn, in an attempt to defend himself, grabbed the handiest item, a bottle of salad dressing, and struck Barcelo with it," Dinsmoor said. "Barcelo, who was cut near one of his ears, surrendered and waited quietly for police to arrive." Penn, leader of the so-called Hollywood bratpack of young stars, called police on his car telephone, Dinsmoor said. Mail belonging to the Penns was found in Barcelo's car, he said. Barcelo, 20, and two 17-year-olds were held on suspicion of prowling and trespassing after Penn placed them under citizen's arrest, Dinsmoor said. Two other young people were released. People can make citizen's arrests when police do not see a crime being committed.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠954 ♣10782 ♠9852 ♠A3
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
2 NT Pass ?
What action do you take?
- Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A ♠954 ♠AK962 ♠KQ103
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
What do you bid now?
- Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A7832 ♠954 ♠8 ♠KJ65
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What action do you take?
- Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AJ1072 ♠AK82 ♠A9 ♠5
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
What do you bid now?
- Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠QJ92 ♠93 ♠KQ76 ♠K83
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
1 NT Pass ?
What action do you take?
- Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AK873 ♠9 ♠QJ95 ♠AQ8
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
?
What do you bid now?